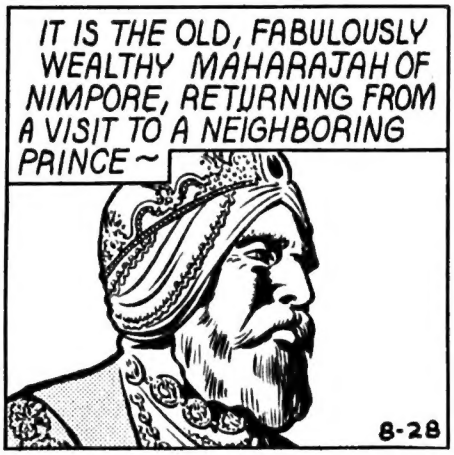
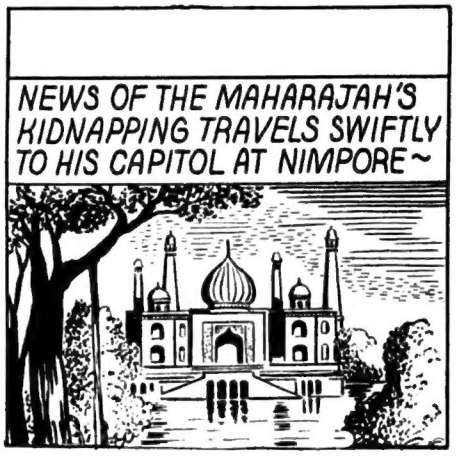
A RICH PROCESSION PASSES ALONG A WIDE JUNGLE PATH IN THE BENGALI JUNGLES ~


IT IS THE OLD, FABULOUSLY WEALTHY MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE, RETURNING FROM A VISIT TO A NEIGHBORING PRINCE ~
8-28

SUDDENLY, THE UNEXPECTED! THE MAHARAJAH'S PARTY IS ATTACKED!

A RIFLE SHOT BRINGS THE ROYAL ELEPHANT TO ITS KNEES! THUS BEGINS THE MOST AUDACIOUS KIDNAPPING IN JUNGLE HISTORY!


NEWS OF THE MAHARAJAH'S KIDNAPPING TRAVELS SWIFTLY TO HIS CAPITOL AT NIMPORE ~

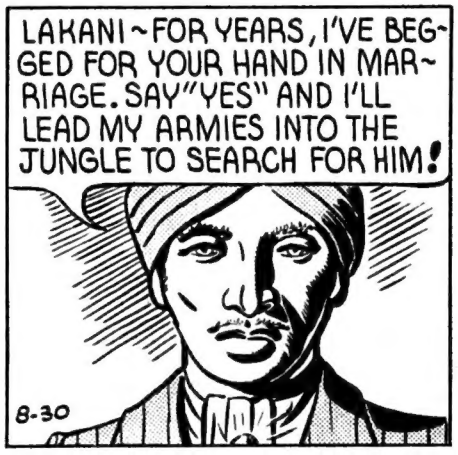
~TO THE MAHARAJAH'S BEAUTIFUL YOUNG DAUGHTER, THE PRINCESS LAKANI, WHO IS TERRIFIED BY THE NEWS ~
8-29

SORAN ~ THE COURT DOCTOR ~
OH, DOCTOR SORAN, I FEEL SO HELPLESS ~ I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO FIRST.
POOR CHILD, BE BRAVE.

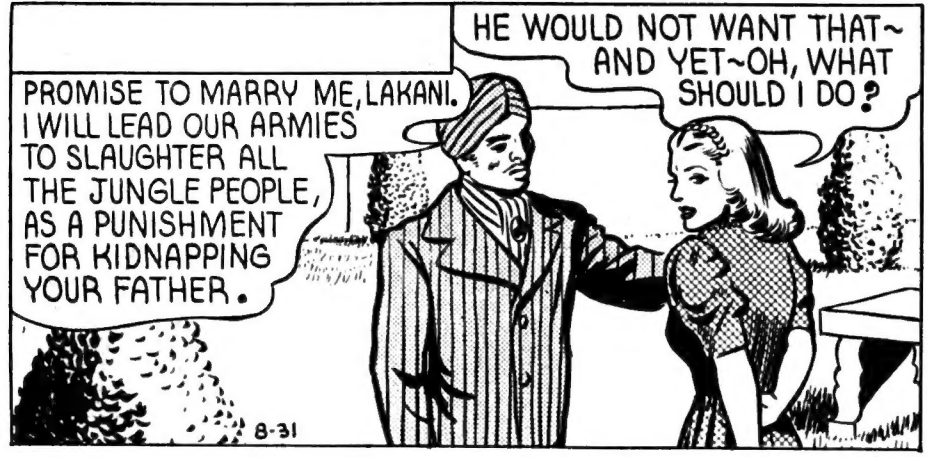
THE RAJAH OF SIMBAL ~ ~ A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY.
WELCOME, RAJAH, HIGHNESS. THE PRINCESS IS PROPERLY PERTURBED. SHE WILL BE AGREEABLE ~ TO ANYTHING!
GOOD, SORAN.

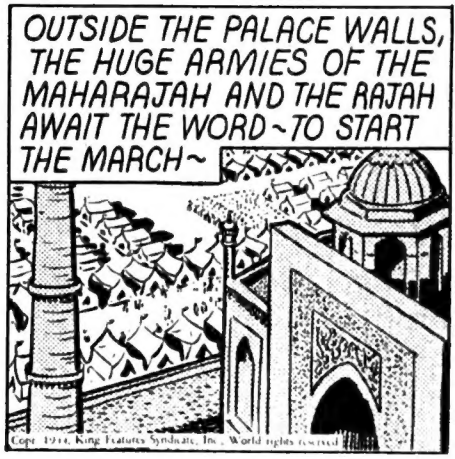
STILL NO WORD OF MY FATHER. IF THE KIDNAPPERS WANT A RANSOM, WHY DON'T THEY SEND WORD?

IF ONLY I WERE A MAN! I AM SO HELPLESS ~ I'D DO ANYTHING TO BRING MY FATHER BACK SAFELY!

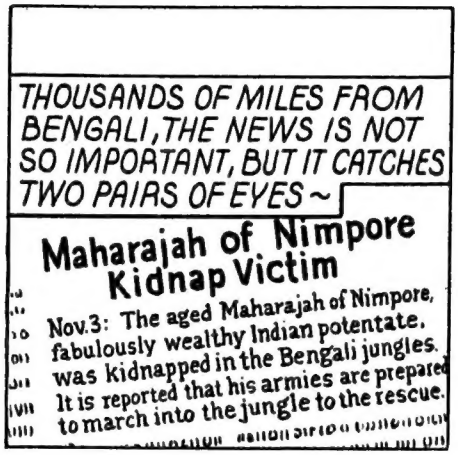

LAKANI ~ FOR YEARS, I'VE BEGGED FOR YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE. SAY "YES" AND I'LL LEAD MY ARMIES INTO THE JUNGLE TO SEARCH FOR HIM!
8-30

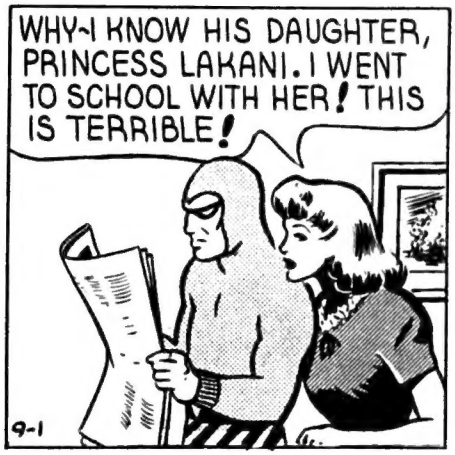
BUT, SIMBAL ~ YOU KNOW THAT I ~ DON'T LOVE YOU.
YOU WANT YOUR FATHER BACK, DON'T YOU?


PROMISE TO MARRY ME, LAKANI. I WILL LEAD OUR ARMIES TO SLAUGHTER ALL THE JUNGLE PEOPLE, AS A PUNISHMENT FOR KIDNAPPING YOUR FATHER.
HE WOULD NOT WANT THAT~ AND YET~OH, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
8-31


OUTSIDE THE PALACE WALLS, THE HUGE ARMIES OF THE MAHARAJAH AND THE RAJAH AWAIT THE WORD~TO START THE MARCH~

THE JUNGLE IS SWEPT BY THE TERRIFYING NEWS OF THE APPROACHING WHOLESALE SLAUGHTER~~
SOME FOOL HAS KIDNAPPED THE MAHARAJAH~
ONLY THE PHANTOM CAN SAVE US! WHERE IS HE?


THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM BENGALI, THE NEWS IS NOT SO IMPORTANT, BUT IT CATCHES TWO PAIRS OF EYES~
Maharajah of Nimpore Kidnap Victim
Nov.3: The aged Maharajah of Nimpore, fabulously wealthy Indian potentate, was kidnapped in the Bengali jungles. It is reported that his armies are prepared to march into the jungle to the rescue.


WHY~I KNOW HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS LAKANI. I WENT TO SCHOOL WITH HER! THIS IS TERRIBLE!
9-1

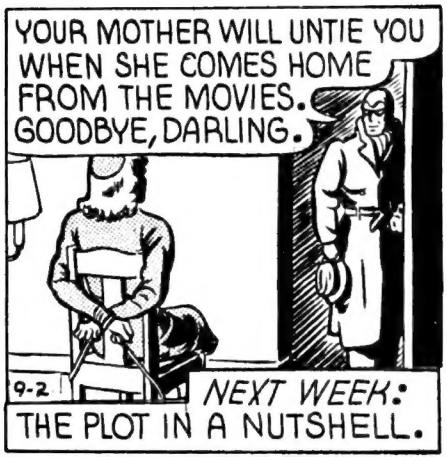
I'M READY!
BUT, DIANA, I TOLD YOU I HAVE TO TRAVEL FAST~ AND ALONE!

WORSE THAN YOU REALIZE, DIANA. IT MEANS A SLAUGHTER OF THE JUNGLE PEOPLE, UNLESS I CAN GET THERE IN TIME TO STOP IT!

I MUST LEAVE AT ONCE!
GOOD! I CAN BE READY IN A JIFFY!
HE SAID "I", NOT "WE", DIANA.

NO, YOU CAN'T KISS ME GOODBYE! I SAID I'M GOING WITH YOU.
NO, IT MAY BE DANGEROUS.

I KNOW THE PRINCESS, AND BESIDES, IT SOUNDS EXCITING! THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP ME FROM COMING WITH YOU!


YOUR MOTHER WILL UNTIE YOU WHEN SHE COMES HOME FROM THE MOVIES. GOODBYE, DARLING.
9-2
NEXT WEEK: THE PLOT IN A NUTSHELL.

IN A DIRTY HUT SOMEWHERE IN THE JUNGLE, THE AGED MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE, ONE OF THE WORLD'S RICHEST MEN, IS A PRISONER!
HE IS UNHARMED. WE DID OUR WORK, AS YOU ASKED. TELL ME, MEKA, WHO IS YOUR MASTER THAT PAID FOR THIS KIDNAPPING?
THAT'S NOT YOUR BUSINESS, CHIEF. HERE'S HALF OF YOUR MONEY. YOU'LL GET THE REST LATER.
9-4
ALL IS WELL, MASTER. THE MAHARAJAH IS SAFE, UNCOMFORTABLE, PERHAPS, BUT UNHARMED.
GOOD WORK, MEKA.
MY PLAN IS WORKING, SORAN. FOR YEARS I'VE WANTED TO MARRY PRINCESS LAKANI. AS HER HUSBAND, I WOULD INHERIT ONE OF THE EARTH'S RICHEST KINGDOMS!
THAT WOULD BE SOON, AS THE OLD MAN CAN'T LIVE LONG. BUT THE PRINCESS HAS REFUSED ME TIME AND TIME AGAIN.
9-5
SO YOU ARRANGED TO KIDNAP THE MAHARAJAH, YOURSELF, EH? SO YOU CAN BE THE HERO, BY RESCUING HIM.
THE PRINCESS IS STILL PONDERING MY OFFER ~ BUT WHAT ELSE CAN SHE DO? SHE'LL AGREE TO MARRY ME~I'LL "RESCUE" THE OLD MAN~
AND I WILL RECEIVE THE ESTATE YOU PROMISED ME.
ANY NEWS OF YOUR FATHER YET, LAKANI?
NONE, SIMBAL, NONE!
9-6
HE IS SO OLD~ I FEAR FOR HIS LIFE~
I AM READY TO HELP YOU, DEAR LAKANI~
I WILL SWEEP THE JUNGLES WITH OUR ARMIES, UNTIL I FIND HIM ~ IF YOU WILL PROMISE TO MARRY-ME~
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?
PERHAPS I CAN HELP YOU, PRINCESS?
TOMORROW: WHO ARE YOU?
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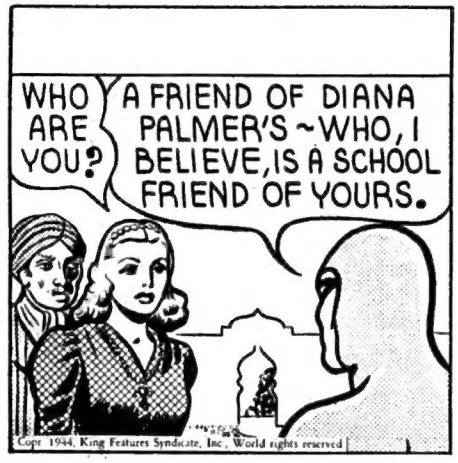
WHO ARE YOU?
A FRIEND OF DIANA PALMER'S ~ WHO, I BELIEVE, IS A SCHOOL FRIEND OF YOURS.
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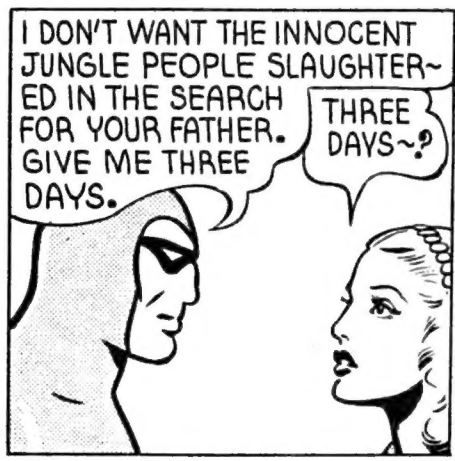
I'LL COME TO THE POINT. I DON'T KNOW WHO KIDNAPPED YOUR FATHER, THE MAHARAJAH, BUT I'LL FIND OUT, MIGHTY FAST!


I DON'T WANT THE INNOCENT JUNGLE PEOPLE SLAUGHTERED IN THE SEARCH FOR YOUR FATHER. GIVE ME THREE DAYS.
THREE DAYS ~?

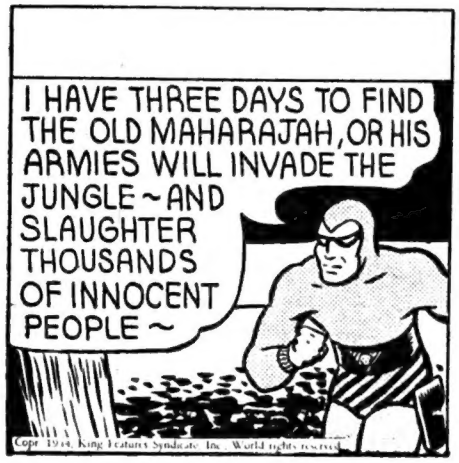
THE RAJAH SEES HIS CAREFUL PLAN SUDDENLY GOING UP IN SMOKE ~
THIS IS A MADMAN! OUT OF THE WAY, PRINCESS ~!
9-7

WAIT, RAJAH SIMBAL! I, TOO, WANT TO AVOID THE SLAUGHTER OF INNOCENT PEOPLE.

I DON'T KNOW YOU ~ BUT SOMEHOW ~ I TRUST YOU ~ IF YOU ARE DIANA'S FRIEND ~ I WILL GIVE YOU THREE DAYS ~ I CAN WAIT NO LONGER ~

THREE DAYS. IF YOUR FATHER LIVES, I WILL FIND HIM. THANK YOU, PRINCESS.

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT MASKED MANIAC, WHOEVER HE IS, OR MY WHOLE PLAN IS RUINED, SORAN!
BE CALM. HE WON'T LEAVE THE PALACE GROUNDS ALIVE!
9-8


I HAVE THREE DAYS TO FIND THE OLD MAHARAJAH, OR HIS ARMIES WILL INVADE THE JUNGLE ~ AND SLAUGHTER THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE ~

SORAN! ARE YOU SURE HE WON'T GET AWAY?
BE CALM, RAJAH SIMBAL. AS SOON AS HE REACHES THE GROVE ~

SUDDENLY ~ THE SWIFT, SILKEN NOOSE OF THE THUGGEE ~ SILENT AND DEADLY ~
9-9

THE SILKEN NOOSE OF THE THUGGEES LIFTS THE PHANTOM FROM THE GROUND, THROTTLING HIM~

FIGHTING OFF UNCONSCIOUSNESS THE PHANTOM GRIPS THE TREE TRUNK WITH HIS POWERFUL LEGS~

SWIFTLY, HE GIVES THE SILKEN ROPE A POWERFUL TUG~
9-11

THE PHANTOM PULLS THE TWO THUGGEES OUT OF THE TREE~ ALL THREE HIT THE GROUND~
9-12
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THE FIRST THUGGEE BOUNCES AT HIM WITH A KNIFE ~ AND BOUNCES BACK AGAIN~!

NOW THE PHANTOM MOVES LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, AND THE SECOND THUGGEE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO DRAW HIS KNIFE!

INCREDIBLE! HE'S OVERCOME TWO ~THUGGEES!
SHOOT, RAJAH, SHOOT! OR HE'S GONE!

THE PHANTOM'S KEEN EARS HEAR THE SHARP CLICK OF A GUN BEING COCKED ~ HE DROPS TO ALL FOURS ~
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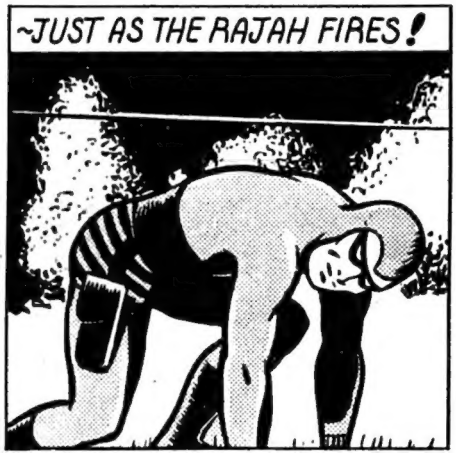
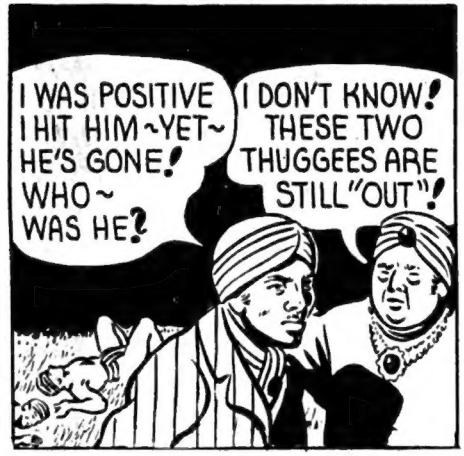
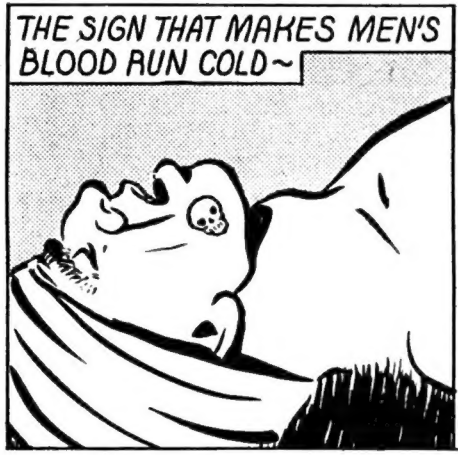

~JUST AS THE RAJAH FIRES!

YOU GOT HIM, RAJAH! I SAW HIM FALL!
SO DID I!
9-13

BUT~WHERE IS HE?
GONE!


I WAS POSITIVE I HIT HIM ~YET~ HE'S GONE! WHO~ WAS HE?
I DON'T KNOW! THESE TWO THUGGEES ARE STILL "OUT"!

HE MUST HAVE DEALT THEM TERRIFIC BLOWS. THEY'RE NOT EVEN MOVING~AND THEY'RE POWERFUL MEN! RAJAH~LOOK!
9-14


THE SIGN THAT MAKES MEN'S BLOOD RUN COLD~

NOW, WE KNOW~
THE PHANTOM!

THE PHANTOM! WARN ALL THE GUARDS TO SHOOT HIM ON SIGHT! HE MUST NOT LEAVE THE PALACE ESTATE!
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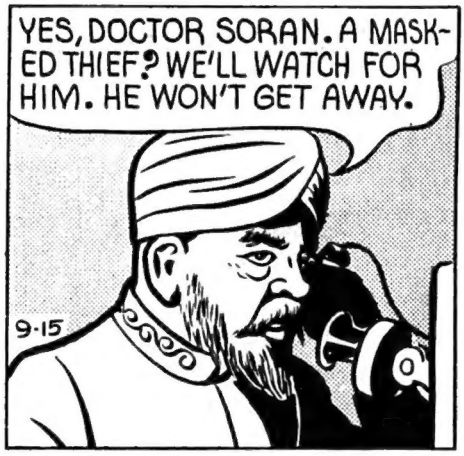
WE'RE GOING TOO FAR, RAJAH. IF THE PRINCESS HEARS OF THIS~
SHE WON'T. GO AHEAD, SORAN!


YES, DOCTOR SORAN. A MASKED THIEF? WE'LL WATCH FOR HIM. HE WON'T GET AWAY.
9-15

BUT THE GUARDS ARE READY AND WAITING!
NOW FOR A QUICK DASH THRU THE GATES~AND THEN INTO THE JUNGLE!

THERE HE IS!
THE MASKED THIEF!
9-16

COULDN'T MAKE THE GATES! THEY WERE WAITING FOR ME! SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO KEEP ME FROM SAVING THE MAHARAJAH!

SURROUNDED IN THE GROVE, HE SPEEDS UP A TALL TREE~
I WONDER WHO ~AND WHY?

WE'VE GOT HIM! HE'S UP THERE!

THE PHANTOM IS TREED ON THE MAHARAJAH'S ESTATE.
HE'S UP THERE, ALL RIGHT~TOO DARK TO GET A GOOD AIM~
GET AN AXE~ TWO AXES!

THERE'S NO WAY TO GO FROM HERE, EXCEPT DOWN~WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

IF WE CAN'T SHOOT HIM OUT OF THE TREE~
~WE'LL BRING DOWN THE TREE.

THERE SHE GOES!
9-18

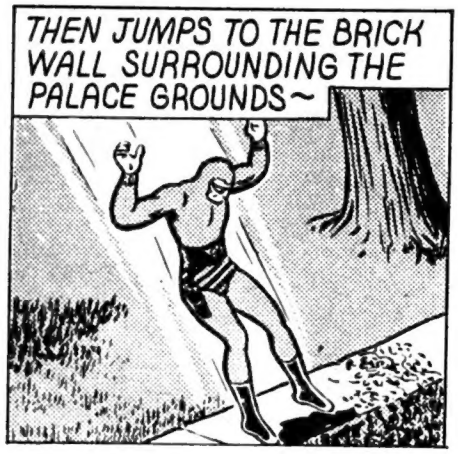
AS THE HIGH TREE PLUNGES TO THE GROUND~

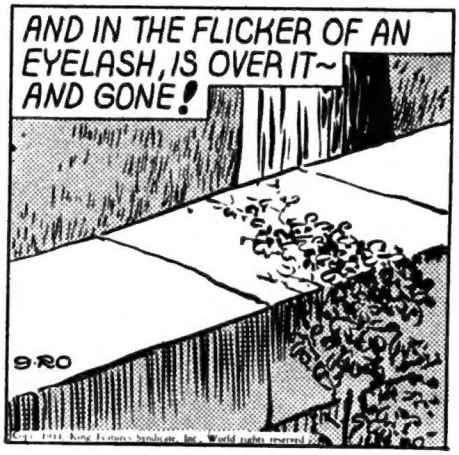
THE PHANTOM DIVES~
9-19

~ONTO A BRANCH OF THE NEXT TREE~

WHERE IS HE?
UP THERE! IN~ THE OTHER TREE! HE FLEW~!

JUMPING TO ANOTHER TREE, THE PHANTOM PAUSES ONLY FOR A SPLIT SECOND~


THEN JUMPS TO THE BRICK WALL SURROUNDING THE PALACE GROUNDS~

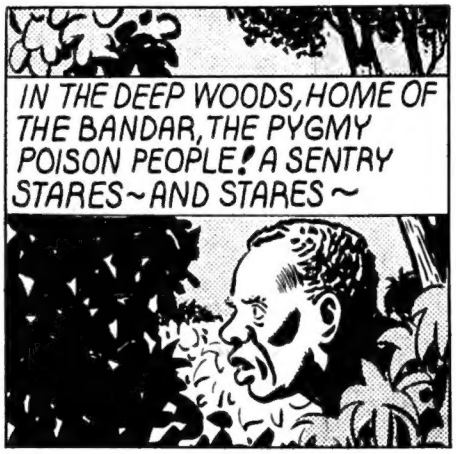

AND IN THE FLICKER OF AN EYELASH, IS OVER IT~ AND GONE!
9-20

WE CHOPPED DOWN THE TREE ~HE FLEW TO ANOTHER TREE ~
~THEN HE FLEW TO THE WALL~AND DISAPPEARED! HE HAS WINGS~LIKE A BIRD!

THE GUARDS SWEAR THAT HE FLEW AWAY. AT ANY RATE ~HE GOT AWAY!
THE IDIOTS! WELL, HE'LL NEVER FIND THE MAHARAJAH!
9-21

COME ON, FELLA. WE'VE ONLY GOT THREE DAYS TO FIND THE OLD MAHARAJAH, OR THE JUNGLE PEOPLE WILL BE SLAUGHTERED BY HIS ARMIES!

SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO KEEP ME FROM FINDING HIM! WONDER WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT? WELL~WE'LL SOON KNOW!
TOMORROW: THE DEEP WOODS.


IN THE DEEP WOODS, HOME OF THE BANDAR, THE PYGMY POISON PEOPLE! A SENTRY STARES~AND STARES ~

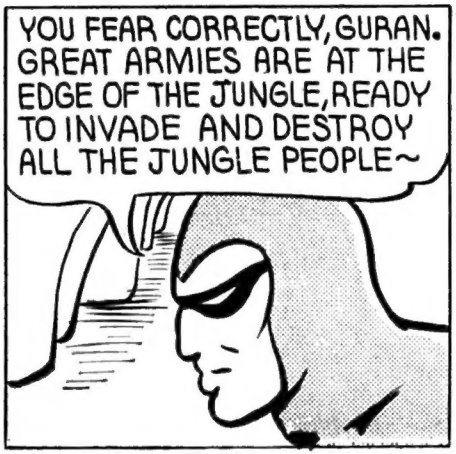
~THEN RUNS LIKE BLAZES!

HE'S COMING~THE PHANTOM! HE HAS RETURNED!
9-22

WELCOME HOME~ OH, GHOST WHO WALKS!
TOMORROW~CLUE.

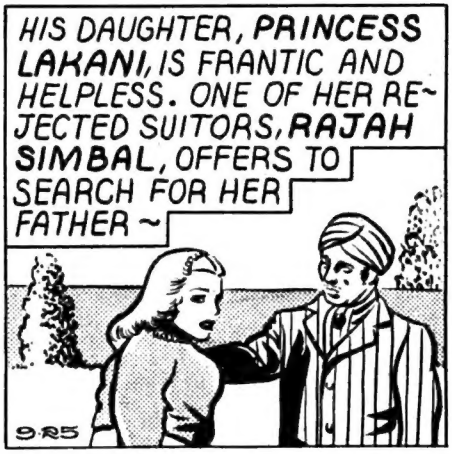
WHO KIDNAPPED THE OLD MAHARAJAH, GURAN?
WE KNOW NOT, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.

ALL THE JUNGLE ASKS THAT QUESTION. WE FEAR THAT IF HE IS NOT FOUND, THERE WILL BE GREAT TROUBLE.
9-23

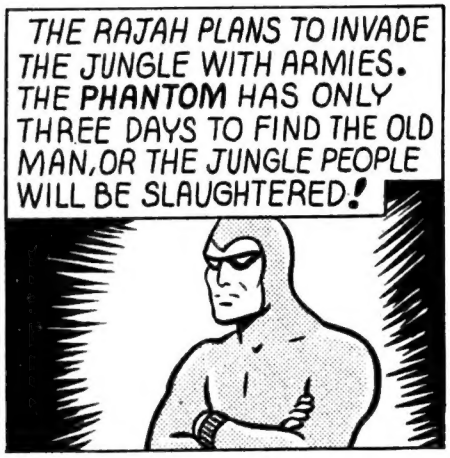

YOU FEAR CORRECTLY, GURAN. GREAT ARMIES ARE AT THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE, READY TO INVADE AND DESTROY ALL THE JUNGLE PEOPLE~

~UNLESS I CAN FIND THE MAHARAJAH FIRST. I HAVE ONLY THREE DAYS. HE'S SOMEWHERE IN THIS JUNGLE. WHERE DO WE LOOK FIRST?
NEXT WEEK~ THE ROYAL ELEPHANT.

THE STORY SO FAR~ THE AGED MAHARAJAH OF OF NIMPORE, ONE OF THE WORLD'S RICHEST MEN, IS KIDNAPPED IN THE JUNGLE~


HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS LAKANI, IS FRANTIC AND HELPLESS. ONE OF HER REJECTED SUITORS, RAJAH SIMBAL, OFFERS TO SEARCH FOR HER FATHER ~
9-25

~IF SHE WILL MARRY HIM! SHE DOES NOT KNOW THAT THE RAJAH, AND SORAN, HER COURT DOCTOR, ARRANGED THE KIDNAPPING.


THE RAJAH PLANS TO INVADE THE JUNGLE WITH ARMIES. THE PHANTOM HAS ONLY THREE DAYS TO FIND THE OLD MAN, OR THE JUNGLE PEOPLE WILL BE SLAUGHTERED!

NATIVES SCOUR THE JUNGLE FOR A TRACE OF THE KIDNAPPED MAHARAJAH ~ WITHOUT SUCCESS.
NO REPORT.
NO REPORT.

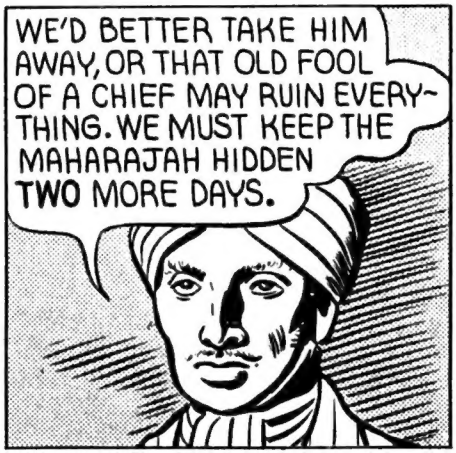
ONE DAY ALMOST GONE ~ STILL NO WORD! AND I'VE ONLY GOT THREE DAYS ~ OR THE JUNGLE PEOPLE WILL BE SLAUGHTERED BY THE RAJAH'S ARMIES!
9-26

MEANWHILE, THE LLONGO CHIEF WHO HOLDS THE MAHARAJAH, HAS HEARD THE PHANTOM IS BACK IN THE JUNGLE!

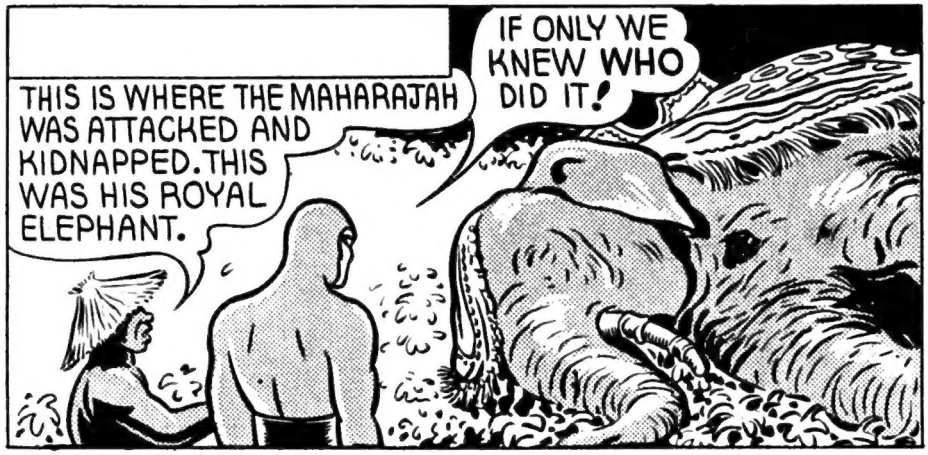
IF THE PHANTOM FINDS HIM HERE, HE WILL DESTROY ME~ I'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THAT OLD MAN AT ONCE!

BUT, CHIEF, YOU WERE PAID TO HOLD THE MAHARAJAH HERE.
NO~TAKE HIM AWAY! BEFORE NIGHTFALL!

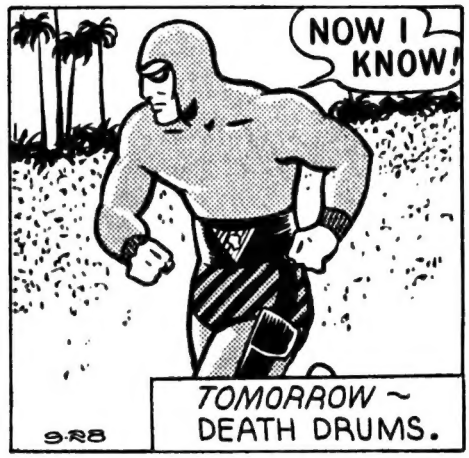
MEKA REPORTS HURRIEDLY TO RAJAH SIMBAL. ~AND THE CHIEF REFUSES TO KEEP HIM THERE ANOTHER DAY. HE'S AFRAID THE PHANTOM MAY FIND HIM THERE!

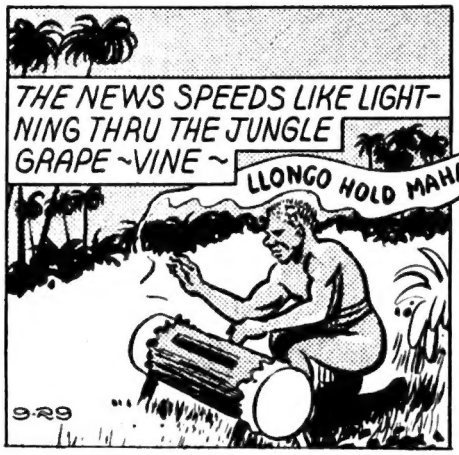

WE'D BETTER TAKE HIM AWAY, OR THAT OLD FOOL OF A CHIEF MAY RUIN EVERYTHING. WE MUST KEEP THE MAHARAJAH HIDDEN TWO MORE DAYS.

AFTER THAT, I'LL BE FREE TO INVADE THE JUNGLE, "RESCUE" HIM, AND WIN THE HAND OF PRINCESS LAKANI!


THIS IS WHERE THE MAHARAJAH WAS ATTACKED AND KIDNAPPED. THIS WAS HIS ROYAL ELEPHANT.
IF ONLY WE KNEW WHO DID IT!

LOOK, GURAN~A BRACELET! A LLONGO BRACELET! THAT MEANS THAT THE MAHARAJAH IS IN THE LLONGO VILLAGE!


NOW I KNOW!
TOMORROW ~ DEATH DRUMS.
9-28


THE NEWS SPEEDS LIKE LIGHTNING THRU THE JUNGLE GRAPE ~VINE ~
LLONGO HOLD MAHARAJAH·· PHANTOM WILL DESTROY LLONGO
9-29

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AS THE PHANTOM SPEEDS TO THE LLONGO VILLAGE ~
FOOLS ··THEY MAY RUIN EVERYTHING
WILL DESTROY LLONGO

THE LLONGO CHIEF IS TERRIFIED ~
I'LL KILL THE OLD MAN~BURY HIM~ DEEP~

THE LLONGO CHIEF CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE THING! HE MUST GET RID OF THE OLD MAHARAJAH!
WHO ARE YOU? WHY DO YOU ~~

MEKA, THE RAJAH OF SIMBAL'S SERVANT, ARRIVES JUST IN TIME ~
FOOL! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
GET HIM OUT OF HERE. THE PHANTOM IS COMING!
9-30

QUICK! OUT THE BACK WAY WITH HIM! I'LL GIVE YOU BACK YOUR GOLD!
STOP BABBLING LIKE A FOOL. I'M TAKING HIM AWAY!
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THE PHANTOM FACES THE LLONGO CHIEF~
WHERE IS THE MAHARAJAH?
I DON'T KNOW.

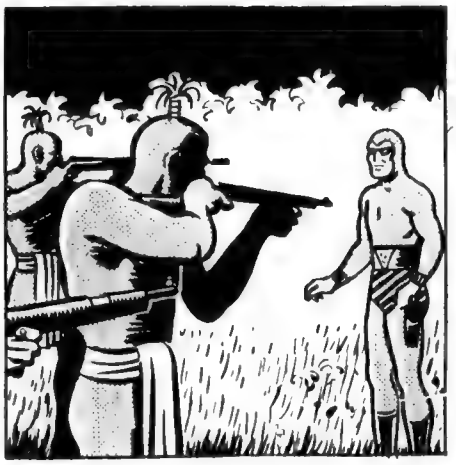
YOU LIE! YOU KID-NAPPED HIM! HE'S HIDDEN HERE!
NO~NO
10·2

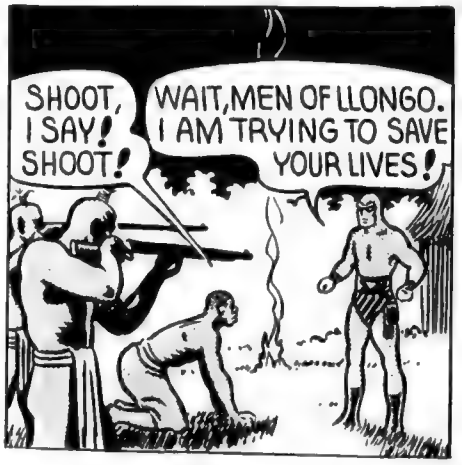
MEANWHILE, AT THE EDGE OF THE VILLAGE, MEKA HURRIEDLY MAKES OFF WITH THE OLD MAHARAJAH ~

SPEAK! WHERE IS THE MAHARAJAH?
YOU~~!

I'M NOT LEAVING UNTIL I GET THE TRUTH!
10·3

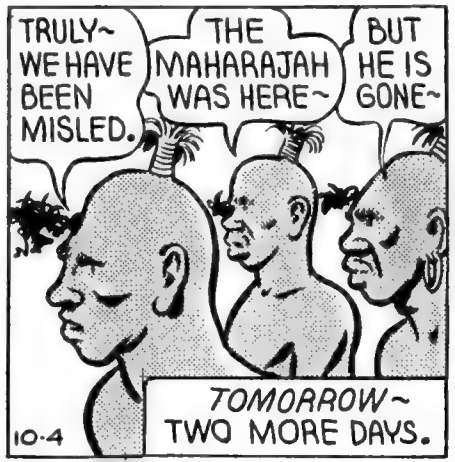
SEIZE HIM! KILL HIM!




SHOOT, I SAY! SHOOT!
WAIT, MEN OF LLONGO. I AM TRYING TO SAVE YOUR LIVES!

IF I DON'T FIND THE MAHARAJAH IN TWO DAYS, HIS ARMIES WILL INVADE THESE JUNGLES AND SLAUGHTER ALL OF YOU.

YOUR CHIEF MISLED YOU INTO KIDNAPPING THE MAHARAJAH. QUICK~THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE! WHERE IS HE?


TRULY~ WE HAVE BEEN MISLED.
THE MAHARAJAH WAS HERE~
BUT HE IS GONE~
TOMORROW~ TWO MORE DAYS.
10·4

THE MAHARAJAH WAS TAKEN AWAY BY A MAN NAMED MEKA. MEKA WAS ONLY A SERVANT. WHO HIS MASTER WAS, I KNOW NOT.
MEKA'S MASTER, THEN, IS THE EVIL ONE. I WILL FOLLOW MEKA. GUARD YOUR CHIEF WELL. ONLY TWO MORE DAYS LEFT

MEANWHILE, THE PRINCESS LAKANI AND THE RAJAH~
THE MASKED MAN HAS NOT DONE SO WELL. IT IS A WASTE OF TIME. LET ME SEARCH NOW FOR YOUR FATHER.
10-5

NO~I MUST WAIT. YOUR WAY MEANS SLAUGHTER. IF ONLY MY FATHER STILL LIVES~

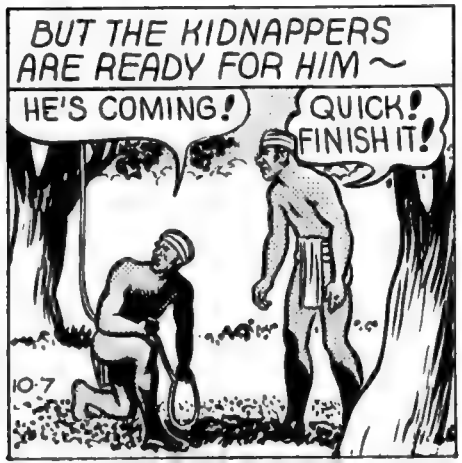
MEKA GALLOPS ON WITH THE AGED MAHARAJAH~

THIS CAVE WILL BE A SAFE PLACE TO HIDE HIM.
10-6

UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THIS PHANTOM IS ON OUR TRAIL. BE READY FOR HIM.
DON'T WORRY, MEKA. WE WILL!

THEY FOLLOWED THIS TRAIL. THE TRACKS ARE FRESH! THEY CAN'T BE FAR AHEAD!

AS THE PHANTOM FOLLOWS THE TRAIL OF THE MAHARAJAH'S KIDNAPPERS~

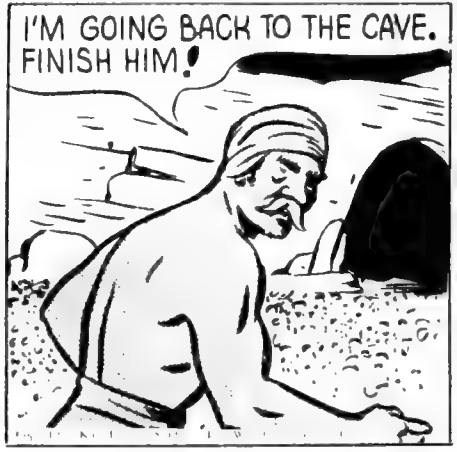

BUT THE KIDNAPPERS ARE READY FOR HIM~
HE'S COMING!
QUICK! FINISH IT!
10-7

SPEEDING ON THE TRAIL, THE PHANTOM STEPS INTO A CONCEALED NOOSE~

AND HE IS JERKED INTO THE AIR, FEET~FIRST! AN OLD BUT EFFECTIVE JUNGLE TRAP!

THE PHANTOM STEPS INTO A JUNGLE TRAP THAT JERKS HIM INTO THE AIR~HE DANGLES BY ONE ANKLE~

GOT HIM!
10-9


I'M GOING BACK TO THE CAVE. FINISH HIM!

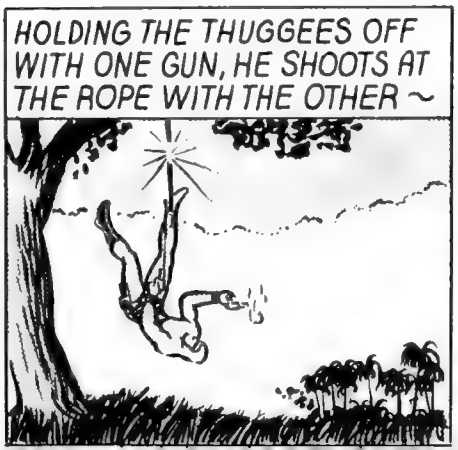
AS THE THUGGEES ADVANCE TO FINISH OFF THE PHANTOM WITH THEIR LONG KNIVES~

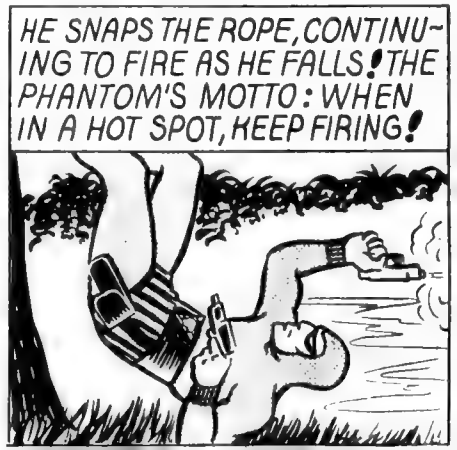
HE SUDDENLY WHIPS OUT HIS GUNS~~

BULLETS~FROM A MAN HANGING UP~SIDE~DOWN! SOMETHING THEY NEVER EXPECTED!
10-10

EVEN HANGING UP~SIDE~DOWN, THE PHANTOM IS A CRACK SHOT~

SHOOT HIM!
STICK MY HEAD ABOVE THIS ROCK? NOT ME! YOU SHOOT HIM!
10-11


HOLDING THE THUGGEES OFF WITH ONE GUN, HE SHOOTS AT THE ROPE WITH THE OTHER~


HE SNAPS THE ROPE, CONTINUING TO FIRE AS HE FALLS! THE PHANTOM'S MOTTO: WHEN IN A HOT SPOT, KEEP FIRING!

PURSUED BY THE PHANTOM, THE THUGGEES FLEE TO THE CAVE WHERE THE MAHARAJAH IS HIDDEN~

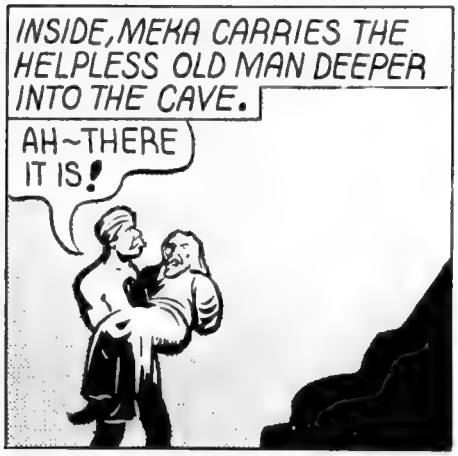
HE~GOT AWAY! HE'S NOT HUMAN, MEKA!
IDIOTS! DID YOU HAVE TO LEAD HIM HERE?

HOLD HIM OFF, UNTIL I CAN GET THE OLD MAN AWAY. DON'T LET HIM INTO THIS CAVE!

THE AGED MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE WATCHES HIS CAPTOR DULLY, TOO WEAK TO PROTEST.
WE'RE MOVING! YOU NEED A CHANGE OF COSTUME. THAT OUTFIT'LL ATTRACT TOO MUCH ATTENTION IN THE CITY!
10-12

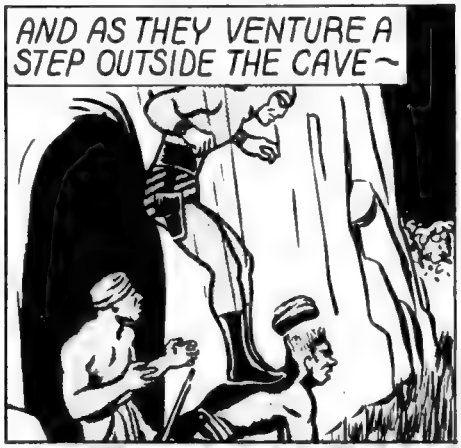
THE OLD MAHARAJAH'S IN THAT CAVE! THIS LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE SEARCH!
10-13

MEKA SAID, HOLD HIM OFF ~ KEEP HIM OUT OF THE CAVE!


INSIDE, MEKA CARRIES THE HELPLESS OLD MAN DEEPER INTO THE CAVE.
AH~THERE IT IS!

LIKE ALL THIEVES, MEKA HAS A PRE~PLANNED EXIT. MAYBE THE PHANTOM IS COUNTING HIS CHICKENS TOO SOON!

WHERE DID HE GO?
MAYBE WE SCARED HIM OFF.
10-14


AND AS THEY VENTURE A STEP OUTSIDE THE CAVE~

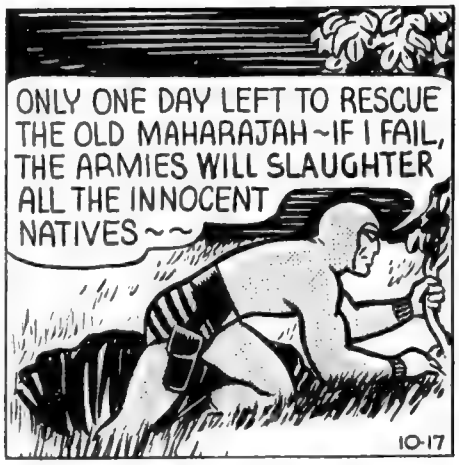
MEANWHILE, MEKA IS MAKING GOOD HIS ESCAPE! WILL THE PHANTOM FAIL TO RESCUE THE OLD MAHARAJAH, AFTER ALL?

THE PHANTOM ROUTS THE THUGGEES AT THE CAVE'S MOUTH ~~
10-16

THE MAHARAJAH'S GONE! THERE MUST BE A REAR EXIT IN THIS CAVE!

THIS IS IT! THEY WENT THIS WAY!

TOO LATE! THERE THEY GO!


ONLY ONE DAY LEFT TO RESCUE THE OLD MAHARAJAH ~ IF I FAIL, THE ARMIES WILL SLAUGHTER ALL THE INNOCENT NATIVES ~~
10-17

ALL I CAN DO IS KEEP TRYING. THEY'VE GOT A LEAD, BUT THEIR HORSES CAN'T GALLOP FOREVER ~

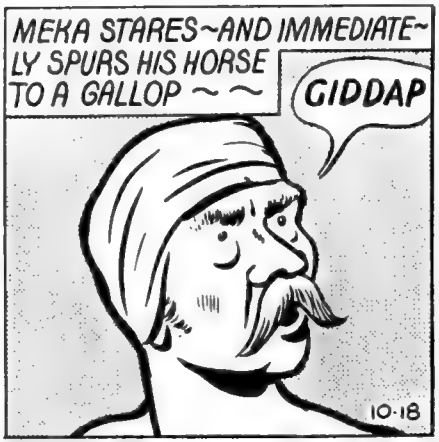
MEKA RIDES AS THO PURSUED BY DEMONS!
THAT WAS CLOSE! HE'LL NEVER CATCH US NOW!

BEHIND, THE KIDNAPPED, AGED MAHARAJAH HANGS ON DROWSILY, WEAK AND SICK FROM THE CRUEL TREATMENT HE HAS UNDERGONE ~

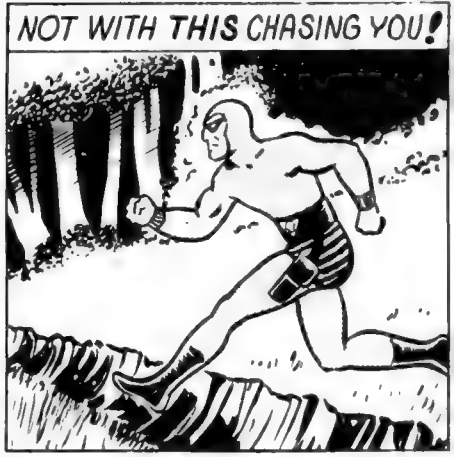
NO NEED TO HURRY NOW. WE'RE NOT FAR FROM THE CITY. I UNTIED YOU ~ BUT IF YOU TRY TO ESCAPE, I'LL KILL YOU!

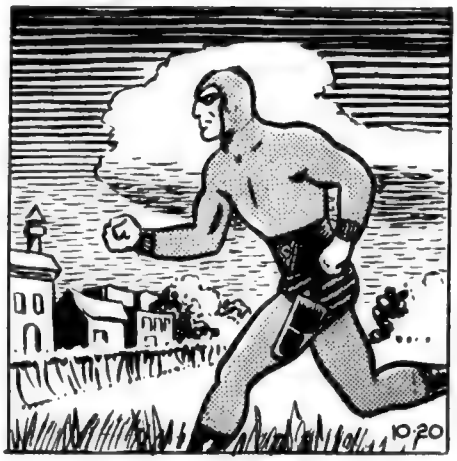
THE OLD MAHARAJAH IS TOO WEAK TO REPLY TO MEKA, HIS CAPTOR.

SUDDENLY, FAR ABOVE ~


MEKA STARES ~ AND IMMEDIATELY SPURS HIS HORSE TO A GALLOP ~ ~
GIDDAP
10-18

THE SUDDEN START THROWS THE OLD MAN FROM HIS MOUNT ~~





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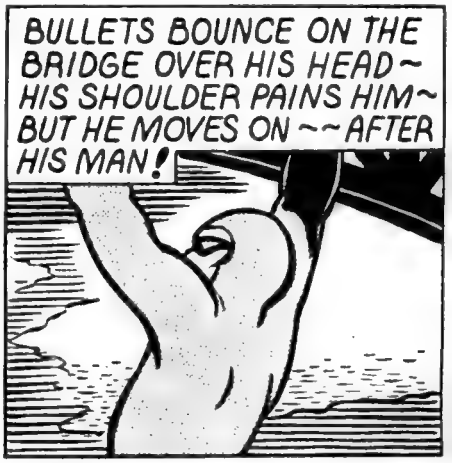
MEKA'S BULLET FINDS ITS MARK~BUT IT'S A LITTLE HIGH, AND TO THE RIGHT~

THE PHANTOM SHOULD BE HERE! WHERE IS HE?
10·23

WHERE DID HE GO? HE FELL~I HIT HIM ~IN THE SHOULDER~
10·24

UNDER THE BRIDGE ~ ~THE PHANTOM MOVES SLOWLY, HAND OVER HAND~

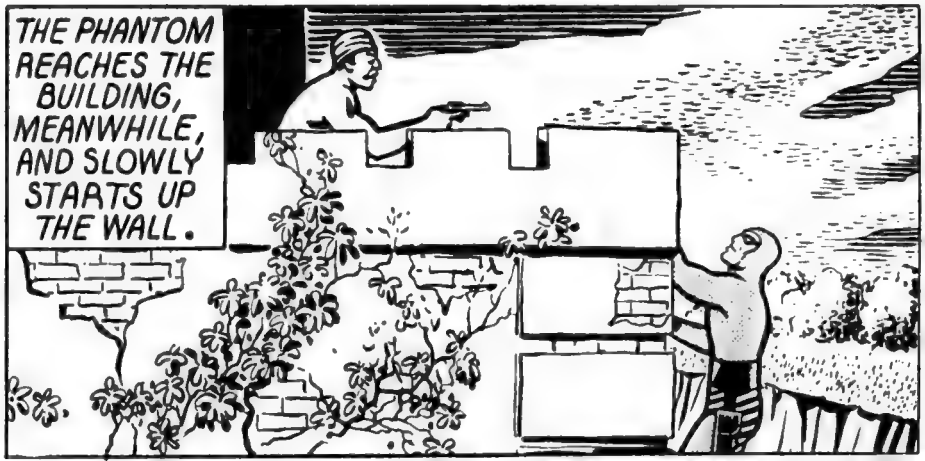
HE'S UNDER THE BRIDGE!

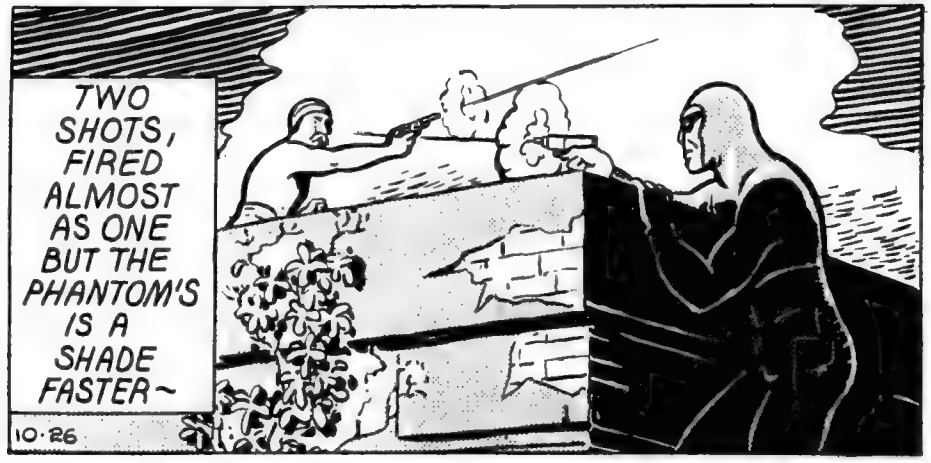

BULLETS BOUNCE ON THE BRIDGE OVER HIS HEAD~ HIS SHOULDER PAINS HIM~ BUT HE MOVES ON ~~AFTER HIS MAN!

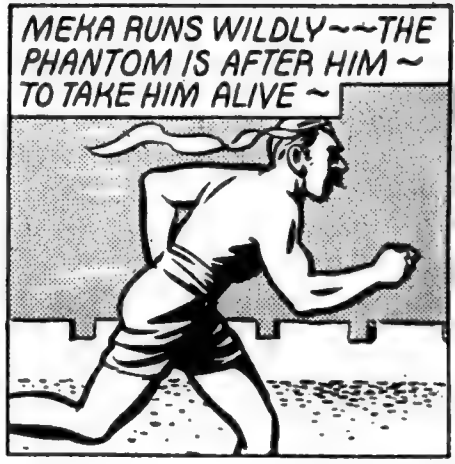
GOT HIM! NOW TO FINISH HIM!

CAN'T REACH HIM FROM THE WINDOW~MAYBE I'LL GET A BETTER ANGLE FROM THE ROOF~GOT TO STOP HIM!
10·25

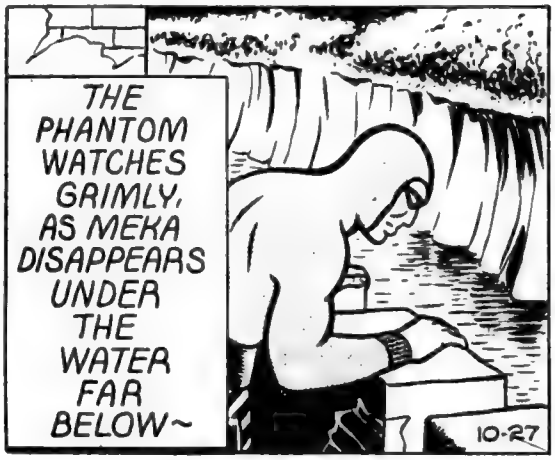
WHERE IS HE?


THE PHANTOM REACHES THE BUILDING, MEANWHILE, AND SLOWLY STARTS UP THE WALL.


TWO SHOTS, FIRED ALMOST AS ONE BUT THE PHANTOM'S IS A SHADE FASTER~
10·26


MEKA RUNS WILDLY~~THE PHANTOM IS AFTER HIM ~ TO TAKE HIM ALIVE ~

MEKA LEAPS FRANTICALLY~ ANYTHING TO GET AWAY FROM THIS MAN ~


THE PHANTOM WATCHES GRIMLY, AS MEKA DISAPPEARS UNDER THE WATER FAR BELOW~
10·27

THERE GOES MY LAST CLUE TO THE MAHARAJAH ~ AND MY THREE DAYS ARE UP~

MEANWHILE~~IN THE PALACE~
THE THREE DAYS ARE UP. YOUR MASKED MAN HAS FAILED TO FIND YOUR FATHER.
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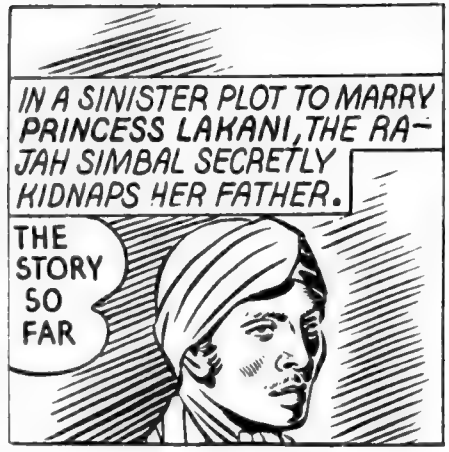
NOW~I SHALL FIND YOUR FA~ THER~AND YOU WILL BE MY BRIDE. THAT WAS OUR AGREEMENT.
TOMORROW~ THE JUNGLE TREMBLES.

THIS IS OUR DAY, SORAN. OUR PLAN HAS WORKED.
NOW, YOU "RESCUE" THE MAHARAJAH, MARRY THE PRINCESS~ VERY CLEVER, RAJAH.
10·28

YOUR FATHER'S FINEST REGI~ MENTS, PLUS MINE, READY FOR BATTLE.
AGAINST UN~ ARMED NATIVES. IT'S ~ TRAGIC.

THE JUNGLE TREMBLES~ WORD HAS SPREAD THAT THE ARMIES MARCH THIS DAY, TO FIND THE MAHARAJAH AND AVENGE HIS KIDNAPPING WITH SLAUGHTER!

MEANWHILE, THE AGED MAHARAJAH WANDERS AIMLESSLY.
WHERE AM I? WHO AM I?


IN A SINISTER PLOT TO MARRY PRINCESS LAKANI, THE RAJAH SIMBAL SECRETLY KIDNAPS HER FATHER.
THE STORY SO FAR

THE RAJAH PLANS TO INVADE THE JUNGLE, SLAUGHTER THE NATIVES, AND RETURN, AS CONQUERING HERO~

THE PHANTOM DELAYS THE PLAN FOR THREE DAYS, WHILE HE TRIES TO FIND THE MISSING POTENTATE. BUT HE SEARCHES IN VAIN~

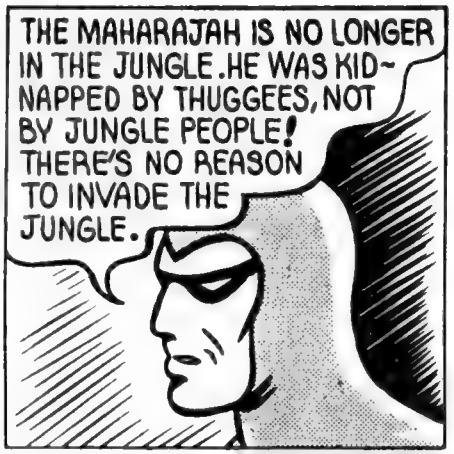
MEANWHILE, THE OLD MAHARAJAH HAS ESCAPED HIS CAPTORS, HIS MEMORY GONE, AS HE WANDERS AIMLESSLY~~
10-30

THE GREAT ARMIES OF THE MAHARAJAH ARE JOINED BEFORE THE PALACE AT NIMPORE, READY TO INVADE THE JUNGLE, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF RAJAH SIMBAL!

WE ARE READY, PRINCESS.

WAIT, RAJAH SIMBAL. HOLD BACK THE ARMIES. YOU ARE TOO LATE TO INVADE THE JUNGLE!
1031

YOU FOUND~ MY FATHER?
NO, PRINCESS.
YOU'VE FAILED~ AS I KNEW YOU WOULD!


THE MAHARAJAH IS NO LONGER IN THE JUNGLE. HE WAS KIDNAPPED BY THUGGEES, NOT BY JUNGLE PEOPLE! THERE'S NO REASON TO INVADE THE JUNGLE.

THERE WILL BE NO INVASION! BUT WHERE IS MY FATHER? IS HE~ ALIVE?
HE WAS ALIVE~ SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY.

YOU'RE WOUNDED~
I'LL FIND YOUR FATHER ~SOMEWHERE, SOMEHOW! KEEP YOUR CHIN UP.
11-1

SOMETHING WENT WRONG. MEKA WAS SUPPOSED TO BRING THE OLD MAN TO TOWN~

MEKA!
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THE OLD MAN FELL OFF THE HORSE~I COULDN'T STOP~ THE PHANTOM WAS AFTER ME! PHANTOM MISSED HIM,TOO~
11-2

WHERE IS HE?
I DON'T KNOW. I WENT BACK.HE WAS GONE.THERE ARE WOLVES IN THE FOREST-HE WAS WEAK~

I DID MY BEST~I ALMOST KILLED MYSELF JUMPING INTO THE RIVER~ ESCAPING THE PHANTOM~

DOES HE KNOW YOU WORK FOR ME?
NO, RAJAH~

STEP IN THERE, MEKA.
11-3

PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR ME ARE ALLOWED ONLY ONE FAILURE, SORAN.
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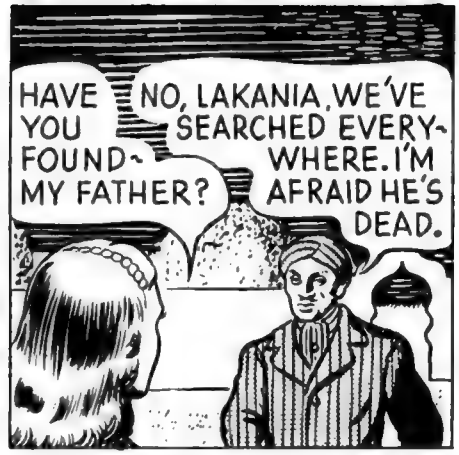
OUR MEN HAVE SEARCHED THE CITY. THERE IS NO TRACE OF THE MAHARAJAH.

KEEP LOOKING, SORAN. MOST LIKELY, HE'S DEAD~EITHER OF EXPOSURE~OR THE WOLVES GOT HIM~
11-4

DAZED, HIS MEMORY GONE, THE MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE WANDERS, BAREFOOT, THRU THE CITY~~

ONE OF THE WORLD'S RICHEST MEN, TAKEN FOR A BEGGAR, IN HIS OWN CAPITAL!

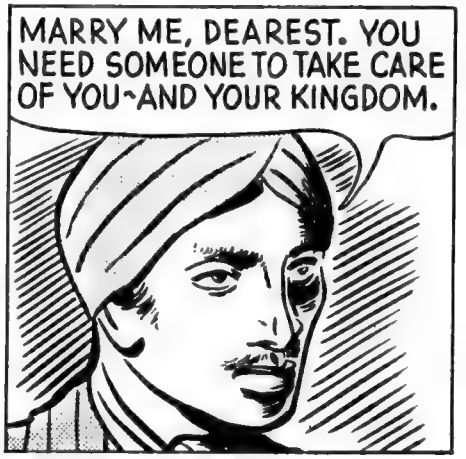

HAVE YOU FOUND MY FATHER?
NO, LAKANIA, WE'VE SEARCHED EVERYWHERE. I'M AFRAID HE'S DEAD.

NO~I WON'T BELIEVE THAT! THE PHANTOM WILL FIND HIM!
POOH~YOU'LL NEVER SEE THE PHANTOM AGAIN.

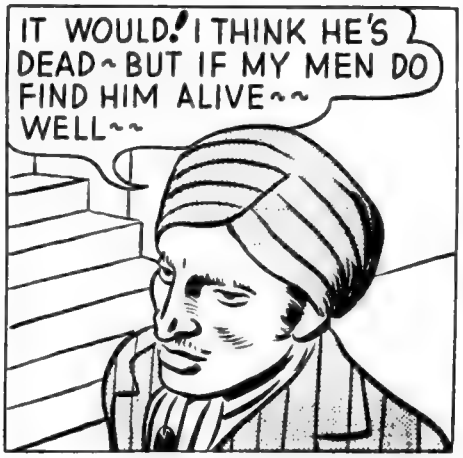
UP TO NOW, HE'S IGNORED HIS BULLET WOUND~~
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP LOOKING, DEVIL~~ UNTIL WE FIND THE OLD MAHA~RAJAH.

BUT EVEN THE PHANTOM IS FLESH AND BLOOD.
HAVE TO KEEP GOING.
11-6

STILL NO WORD FROM YOUR PHANTOM FRIEND. I'M AFRAID HE'S DESERTED YOU.
11-7


MARRY ME, DEAREST. YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU~AND YOUR KINGDOM.

SHE'S COMING AROUND SORAN
IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF THE MAHARAJAH SHOULD RETURN.


IT WOULD! I THINK HE'S DEAD~BUT IF MY MEN DO FIND HIM ALIVE~~ WELL~~

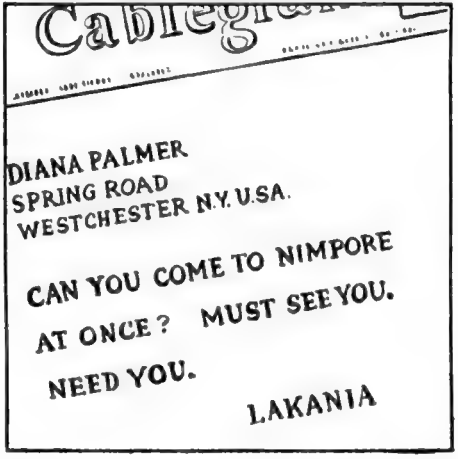
THE RAJAH IS RIGHT, PRINCESS. I FEAR YOUR FATHER IS DEAD.
DON'T SAY THAT, DR. SORAN! PLEASE LEAVE ME!

I'LL FIND YOUR FATHER.
YOU ARE MY ONLY HOPE.

YOU'LL NEVER SEE THE PHANTOM AGAIN~YOU DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS~~ OR WHERE HE IS

I AM A FRIEND OF DIANA PALMER
DIANA~ THAT'S IT~ SHE'LL KNOW!
11-8

PLEASE HAVE THIS CABLE SENT AT ONCE.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.


Cablegram
DIANA PALMER
SPRING ROAD
WESTCHESTER N.Y. U.S.A.
CAN YOU COME TO NIMPORE AT ONCE? MUST SEE YOU. NEED YOU.
LAKANIA

NOT JUST A REGULAR TELEGRAM, MISS PALMER. IT'S A CABLE, ALL THE WAY FROM INDIA.
HOW EXCITING.
11-9

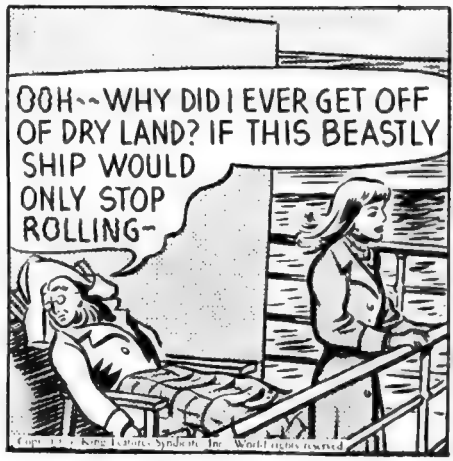
MAMA--IT'S FROM PRINCESS LAKANIA! SHE WANTS ME TO COME TO NIMPORE.

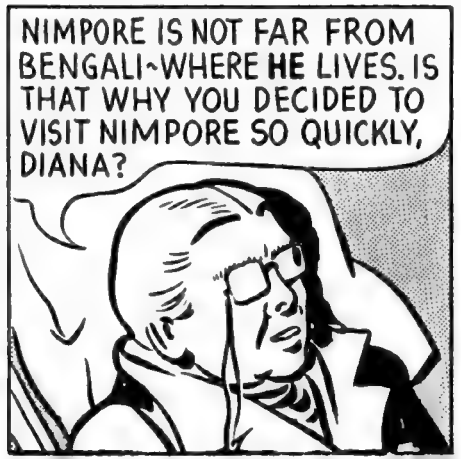
BUT WHO IS PRINCESS LAKANIA, AND WHERE IS NIMPORE?
INDIA. YOU REMEMBER LAKANIA. WE WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER.

"LAKANIA WAS MY ROOMMATE. SHE USED TO TELL ME ABOUT HER PALACE IN NIMPORE. I NEVER QUITE REALIZED SHE WAS REALLY A PRINCESS."

I MEAN, I KNEW SHE WAS, BUT SHE SEEMED JUST LIKE THE REST OF US. SHE MADE ME PROMISE THAT SOMEDAY I'D VISIT HER.
11-10

NOW, SHE NEEDS ME, AND I'M GOING.
YOU'LL GO TO NO SUCH OUTLANDISH PLACE ALONE. I'M GOING WITH YOU.


OOH--WHY DID I EVER GET OFF OF DRY LAND? IF THIS BEASTLY SHIP WOULD ONLY STOP ROLLING-


NIMPORE IS NOT FAR FROM BENGALI-WHERE HE LIVES. IS THAT WHY YOU DECIDED TO VISIT NIMPORE SO QUICKLY, DIANA?

WHY, MAMA, WHAT AN IDEA! LAKANIA IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE. SHE'S IN TROUBLE AND NEEDS ME.

I HAVEN'T ANOTHER THOUGHT IN MY HEAD.
11-11

BADLY WOUNDED, THE PHANTOM TRIES TO CONTINUE HIS SEARCH FOR THE MISSING MAHARAJAH~~

WE'LL FIND HIM, "DEVIL"~~ GOT TO FIND HIM~~ PROMISED I WOULD~~

SENSING HIS MASTER IS ILL, "DEVIL" DASHES AWAY FOR HELP~~

AND A LARGE AND HUNGRY LEOPARD PICKS UP THE WOUNDED PHANTOM'S TRAIL THRU THE LONG GRASS.
11-13

HE SUDDENLY SEES THE LEOPARD TRAILING HIM~TOO WEAK TO GET UP, HE TRIES TO MOVE FASTER ON HIS HANDS AND KNEES~~
HMM~THE HUNTER BECOMES THE HUNTED~

THE HUNGRY LEOPARD LEAPS UP INTO A TREE~~

~~THEN SPRINGS AT HIS HELPLESS PREY~~
11-14

AS THE HUNGRY LEOPARD LEAPS AT THE PHANTOM, A POISON ARROW WHIZZES THRU THE AIR~~
11-15

"DEVIL" HAS ARRIVED IN THE NICK OF TIME WITH THE PYGMY BANDAR!

YOU ARE SICK. YOU MUST COME TO THE DEEP WOODS, AND REST.
NO, I PROMISED TO FIND THE OLD MAHARAJAH~

I PROMISED~ UHHH~~~

MAMA, IT'S INDIA!
IT'S DRY LAND! THAT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT!
11-16

LAKANIA? THIS IS DIANA PALMER! MAMA AND I JUST ARRIVED! WE'RE AT THE HOTEL!

DIANA, DARLING! I'LL SEND A CAR FOR YOU AT ONCE! I'M SO HAPPY YOU'VE COME!

SHE HAD A CALL FROM AN AMERICAN GIRL, AN OLD FRIEND. NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, RAJAH.
NO? YOU DON'T KNOW DIANA.
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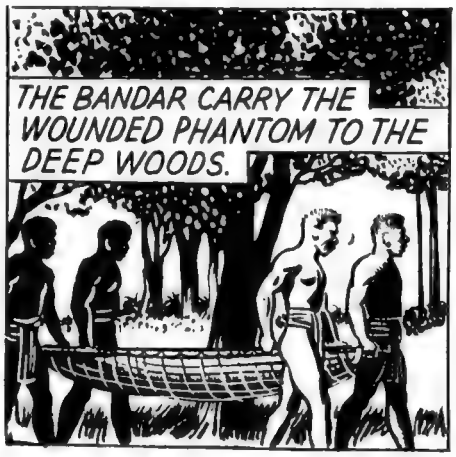

THE BANDAR CARRY THE WOUNDED PHANTOM TO THE DEEP WOODS.

AND MANY MILES AWAY, IN NIMPORE~~
LAKANIA'S CAR WON'T BE HERE FOR AN HOUR. WE'LL HAVE TIME TO SEE SOME SIGHTS.

MR. HOTEL MANAGER, WHY IS THE FLAG AT HALF-MAST?
ALL THE FLAGS OF NIMPORE ARE AT HALF-MAST, MISS PALMER.
HOTEL
11-17

THE ENTIRE COUNTRY GRIEVES. OUR GREAT MAHARAJAH HAS VANISHED. PERHAPS HE IS DEAD ~~ NO ONE KNOWS

WHEN DID THE MAHARAJAH VANISH?
A MONTH AGO, MISS PALMER.

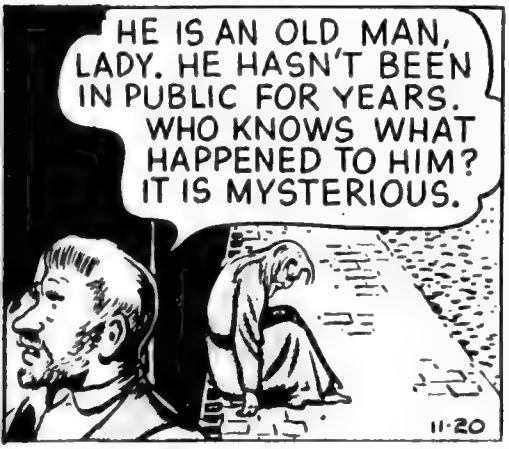
POOR LAKANIA. SHE MUST BE FRANTIC.
I HOPE SHE DOESN'T EXPECT YOU TO FIND HIM.

HOW COULD A MAHARAJAH VANISH? WHY, HE'S LIKE A KING. YOU'D THINK SOMEBODY WOULD RECOGNIZE HIM.
11-18

I STILL CAN'T SEE HOW THE MAHARAJAH COULD JUST DISAPPEAR!
MAYBE HE CLIMBED UP ONE OF THOSE INDIAN ROPES. OH, WELL, I MUST DO SOME SHOPPING.

SORRY, LADIES. MY SHOP, LIKE ALL SHOPS, IS CLOSED, OUT OF RESPECT TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MAHARAJAH.

WILL YOU TELL ME ONE THING? HOW DISAPPEAR? EVERYBODY RECOGNIZE HIM?
COULD HE WOULDN'T


HE IS AN OLD MAN, LADY. HE HASN'T BEEN IN PUBLIC FOR YEARS. WHO KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? IT IS MYSTERIOUS.
11-20

HUNGRY~~ HUNGRY~~
MAMA, LOOK AT THE POOR, OLD MAN, SITTING ON THE SIDEWALK.
HE'S JUST A BEGGAR~ HE'S FILTHY~ DON'T GO NEAR HIM, DIANA.

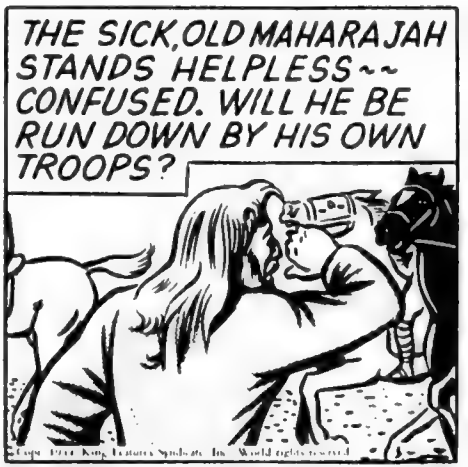
GET AWAY FROM HERE~~ I'VE TOLD YOU BEGGARS TO STAY AWAY FROM MY SHOP!

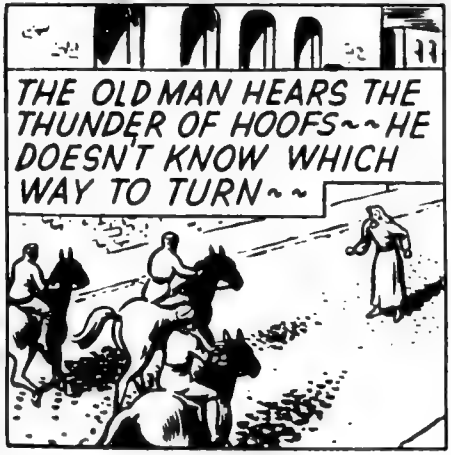
OUR POOR COUNTRY IS FILLED WITH BEGGARS, BUT YOU WILL NOT BE BOTHERED BY HIM ANY~ MORE.
11-21

LOOK OUT, MAMA!
FOR GOODNESS SAKES!

THOSE ARE ROYAL TROOPS, MISS, SEARCHING FOR THE MAHARAJAH. THE SEARCH GOES ON ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

I DON'T CARE IF THEY ARE ROYAL. THEY SHOULD WATCH WHERE THEY'RE GOING!
LOOK, MAMA, THAT OLD MAN!
11-22

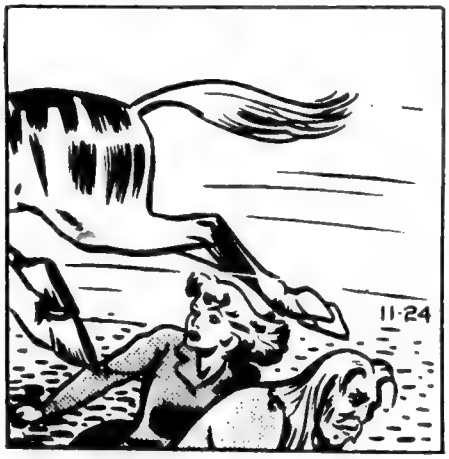

THE SICK, OLD MAHARAJAH STANDS HELPLESS~~ CONFUSED. WILL HE BE RUN DOWN BY HIS OWN TROOPS?


THE OLD MAN HEARS THE THUNDER OF HOOFS~~HE DOESN'T KNOW WHICH WAY TO TURN~~

DIANA~ COME BACK HERE!
11-23

QUICK, GRANDPA! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU!

BUT THE OLD MAN STUMBLES, PULLING DIANA WITH HIM, ALMOST UNDER THE HORSES' HOOFS!


11-24

DIANA!
I'M ALL RIGHT. THEY JUMPED RIGHT OVER US.

POOR, OLD MAN. HE'S SO SICK HE CAN HARDLY TALK.
SICK. IF HE'D BEEN ON HIS FEET WHEN THOSE HORSES PASSED, HE'D BE DEAD!

LET'S CALL A POLICEMAN, OR SOME~THING
NO, HE NEEDS FOOD. I'M TAKING HIM BACK TO THE HOTEL WITH US.

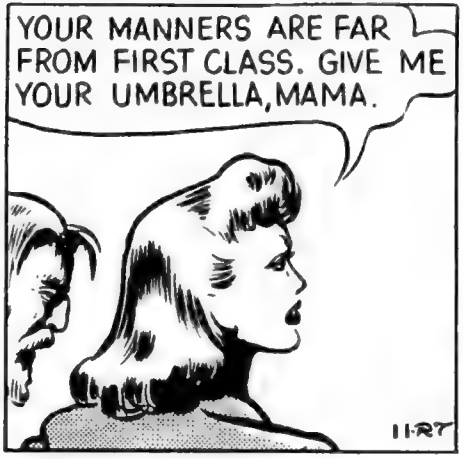
DIANA, THE IDEA OF TAKING HIM TO OUR HOTEL! HE'S NOTHING BUT A BEGGAR!
HUSH. MAMA.

BUT I JUST WANT TO FEED HIM.
I'M SORRY, MISS PALMER. HE CAN'T BE BROUGHT INTO THE HOTEL.

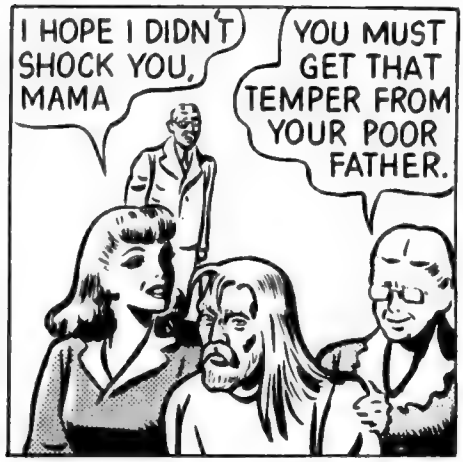
AT THE PALACE, LAKANIA GRIEVES FOR HER FATHER~
OH, DADDY, WHERE ARE YOU? WHERE ARE YOU?

DIANA WILL BE HERE SOON. PERHAPS SHE CAN HELP~~
11-25

HOW DARE YOU CALL HIM A BEGGAR?
BUT I CAN'T LET HIM IN HERE! THIS IS A FIRST CLASS HOTEL.


YOUR MANNERS ARE FAR FROM FIRST CLASS. GIVE ME YOUR UMBRELLA, MAMA.
11-27

NOW, YOU APOLOGIZE, OR YOU'LL GET A FIRST CLASS FRACTURE
I'M SORRY.

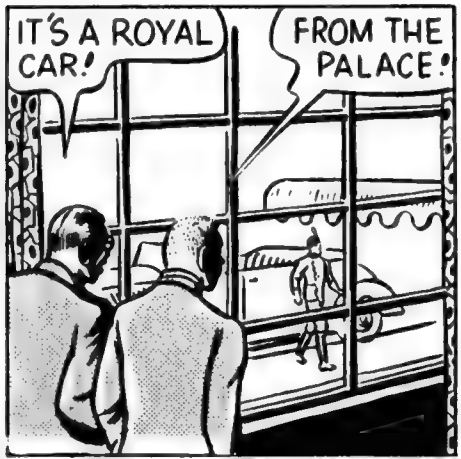

I HOPE I DIDN'T SHOCK YOU, MAMA
YOU MUST GET THAT TEMPER FROM YOUR POOR FATHER.

MISS PALMER, I MUST ASK YOU AND YOUR MOTHER TO LEAVE THE HOTEL AT ONCE.
GLADLY, AFTER I'VE FED THIS POOR OLD MAN. PLEASE SEND UP A WAITER.

BUT DIANA, DEAR, YOU CAN'T TAKE HIM TO OUR ROOM. HE'S PROBABLY COVERED WITH FLEAS.

BESIDES, YOU CAN'T FEED EVERY HUNGRY OLD MAN YOU SEE.
MAYBE NOT, MAMA. BUT I CAN FEED THIS ONE.
11-28

HE'S SO WEAK HE CAN HARDLY EAT.
WHAT IF OUR FRIENDS KNEW WE WERE BEING PUT OUT OF A HOTEL, DIANA?


IT'S A ROYAL CAR!
FROM THE PALACE!

PLEASE INFORM MISS DIANA PALMER THAT THE CAR AWAITS HER, TO TAKE HER TO THE PALACE.
PALACE?
11-29

YES. SHE IS A FRIEND OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS. HURRY, MAN!
AND I ORDERED HER OUT OF MY HOTEL!

NOW DON'T RUSH US! WE'LL GET OUT AS SOON AS WE'RE PACKED
OH, MISS PALMER, IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE!
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WE ARE HONORED BY YOUR PRESENCE. WE WILL MOVE YOU INTO THE ROYAL SUITE, AT NO EXTRA CHARGE!
11-30

THE PALACE CAR IS WAITING FOR YOU DOWN-STAIRS.
SO THAT'S IT. NOW LISTEN- PLEASE SEE THAT THIS OLD MAN IS PUT TO BED.

WE'LL TAKE HIM TO A HOSPITAL AS SOON AS WE RETURN.
CRAZY AMERICANS.

OH--WHAT A MAGNIFICENT PALACE!
THERE'S LAKANIA, WAITING ON THE STEPS!

LAKANIA!
DIANA, DARLING!
IR-1

I KNOW YOUR DAD HAS DISAPPEARED WE'LL FIND HIM.
OH DIANA, IT SEEMS HOPELESS-
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UNLESS I CAN FIND THE PHANTOM. DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?
PHANTOM? WHAT'S HE GOT TO DO WITH THIS?

YES, THE PHANTOM. HE SAID HE KNEW YOU. HE WAS HERE. HE TRIED TO FIND DAD- HE WAS WOUNDED--

WOUNDED? HOW BADLY? WHERE IS HE?
I DON'T KNOW. I THOUGHT YOU'D KNOW.
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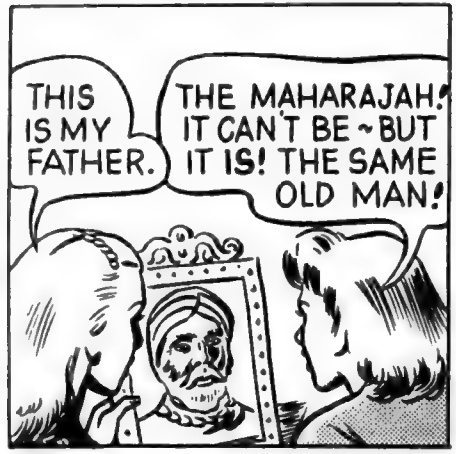
I MUST GO TO HIM AT ONCE!
IR-R

I'LL TRY TO--- WHO IS THAT?
CONTINUED--


THIS IS MY FATHER.
THE MAHARAJAH! IT CAN'T BE ~ BUT IT IS! THE SAME OLD MAN!

DIANA, WHERE IS HE?
IN OUR HOTEL ROOM!

AND AT THE HOTEL ~ ~
POOR OLD BEGGAR. I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM.
WHY?

AS SOON AS THE CRAZY AMERICAN GIRL TIRES OF BEING THE GOOD SAMARITAN, HE'LL BE BACK IN THE GUTTER AGAIN.
IR-4

THE NICE GIRL ~ WHERE IS SHE?
GONE, OLD MAN.
IR-5

HIS MIND WEAKENED BY ILLNESS, THE MAHARAJAH REMEMBERS ONLY DIANA, THE GIRL WHO WAS KIND TO HIM.
STAY IN BED.
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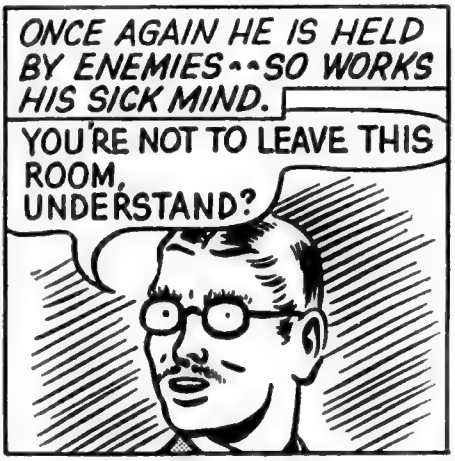
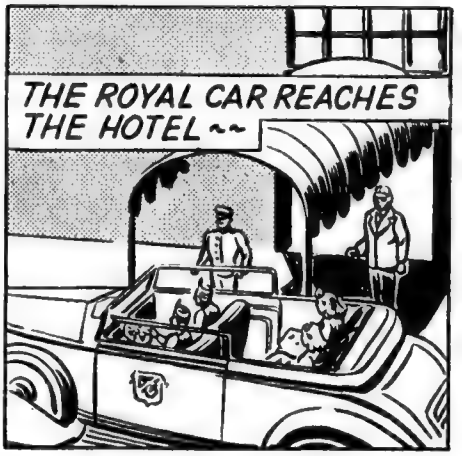

ONCE AGAIN HE IS HELD BY ENEMIES ~ ~ SO WORKS HIS SICK MIND.
YOU'RE NOT TO LEAVE THIS ROOM, UNDERSTAND?

MUST GET AWAY FROM THEM ~ GET AWAY FROM THEM ~


THE ROYAL CAR REACHES THE HOTEL ~ ~

WHERE IS HE ~ THE OLD MAN?
UPSTAIRS ~ IN YOUR ROOM.
IR-6
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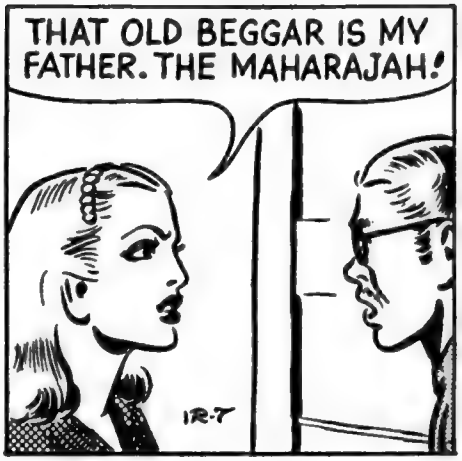
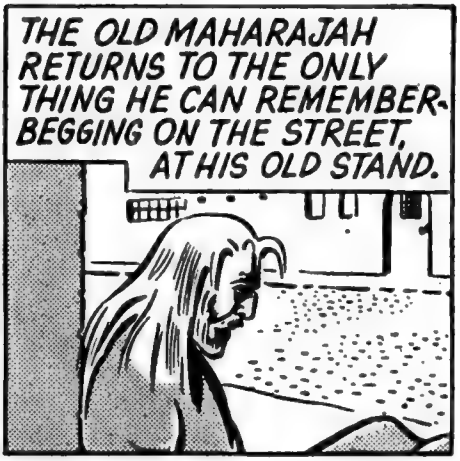
YOUR HIGHNESS, MY HOTEL IS HONORED ~ ~

HE'S ~ ~ GONE!
NO ~ NO ~!

WHERE DID HE GO?
THAT OLD BEGGAR? HE WAS HERE AN HOUR AGO.

BUT WHY BE SO EXCITED ABOUT AN OLD BEGGAR. THE CITY IS FULL OF THEM.


THAT OLD BEGGAR IS MY FATHER. THE MAHARAJAH!
12-7


THE OLD MAHARAJAH RETURNS TO THE ONLY THING HE CAN REMEMBER- BEGGING ON THE STREET, AT HIS OLD STAND.

I'VE WARNED HIM A DOZEN TIMES NOT TO BEG IN FRONT OF MY SHOP.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE OLD GUY.
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I CANT STAND IT~ COMING SO CLOSE ~AND LOSING MY FATHER~AGAIN.
WHERE COULD HE HAVE GONE~?

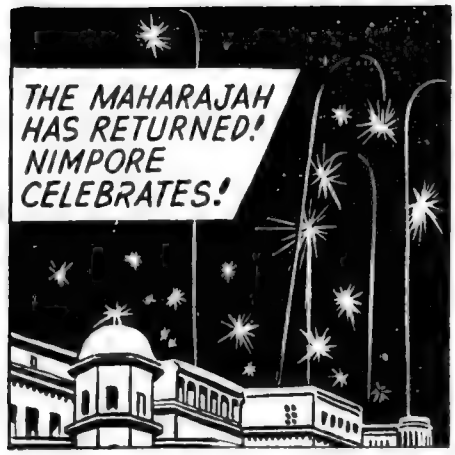
THE FIRST TIME WE SAW HIM, HE WAS SITTING IN FRONT OF A SHOP. MAYBE HE WENT BACK THERE! IT'S WORTH A TRY!
12-8

WHERE IS THAT OLD MAN?
THAT BEGGAR? I HAD HIM ARRESTED.

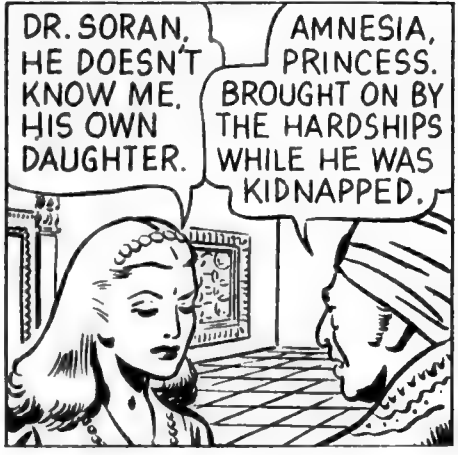
I PROMISED YOU LADIES YOU'D NOT BE BOTHERED BY BEGGARS AT MY SHOP~~
THE ROYAL ARMS! THE PRINCESS!
12-9

DADDY! DADDY!

HE DOESN'T~~ REMEMBER ME~~


THE MAHARAJAH HAS RETURNED! NIMPORE CELEBRATES!

HIS STRANGE CAREER AS A BEGGAR OVER, THE AGED RULER IS HOME AGAIN.
12-11


DR. SORAN, HE DOESN'T KNOW ME. HIS OWN DAUGHTER.
AMNESIA, PRINCESS. BROUGHT ON BY THE HARDSHIPS WHILE HE WAS KIDNAPPED.

IF I EVER LEARN WHO KIDNAPPED HIM, THEY WILL DIE THE MOST PAINFUL DEATH I CAN DEVISE!
THEY DESERVE IT, PRINCESS.

LAKANIA, I'M SO HAPPY THAT YOUR DEAR FATHER HAS RETURNED SAFELY.
THANK YOU, RAJAH SIMBAL.

AND THIS, RAJAH SIMBAL, IS MY AMERICAN FRIEND, DIANA PALMER, WHO FOUND MY FATHER.
12-12

I AM DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU. THE PEOPLE OF NIMPORE ARE ETERNALLY IN DEBT TO YOU, MISS PALMER.
THANK YOU.

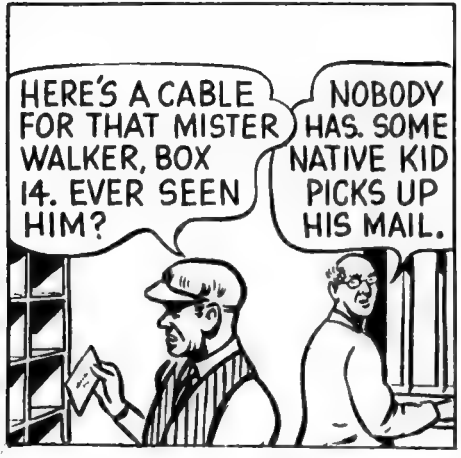
SO SHE FOUND HIM! THE LITTLE !@#!! I COULD STRANGLE HER WITH PLEASURE!

DIANA, I OWE SO MUCH TO YOU AND THE PHANTOM FOR FINDING MY FATHER AND SAVING HIS LIFE!
THE PHANTOM~

HE WAS WOUNDED~I MUST FIND OUT ABOUT HIM~~
WHY, DIANA~ ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH HIM?

YES, TO PUT IT MILDLY! HE ONCE TOLD ME HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM. I HOPE IT WORKS. HE'S A HARD MAN TO FIND.
12-13

YES, THE OLD MAHARAJAH IS BACK SAFELY IN HIS PALACE, OH, GHOST WHO WALKS.
GOOD NEWS! I WON'T HAVE TO RETURN TO NIMPORE.


HERE'S A CABLE FOR THAT MISTER WALKER, BOX 14. EVER SEEN HIM?
NOBODY HAS. SOME NATIVE KID PICKS UP HIS MAIL.

MAIL FOR MISTER WALKER?
YES, HERE'S A CABLE. SAY, KID, WHO IS THIS MISTER WALKER?

HE IS MISTER WALKER*
*WALKER, FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS

MESSAGE FOR MISTER WALKER.
FOR THE PHANTOM.
12-14

ARE YOU WELL? I AM IN HOTEL NIMPORE. DIANA.

THE MESSAGE IS PICKED UP AND RELAYED FROM JUNGLE DRUM TO JUNGLE DRUM ~~
ARE YOU WELL?.....

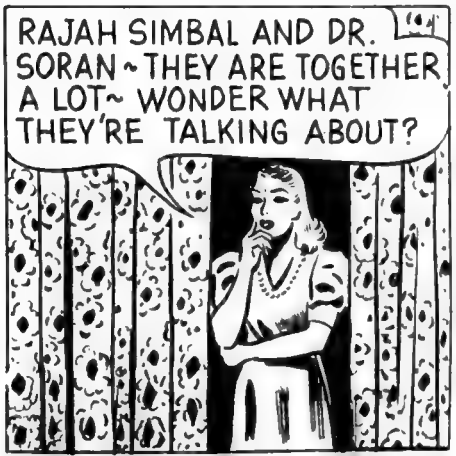
ON AND ON, TOWARDS THE FORBIDDEN DEEP WOODS!
I AM IN HOTEL NIMPORE. DIANA.

DIANA ~ IN NIMPORE! WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR, "DEVIL"? LET'S GO!
NIMPORE. DIANA
12-15

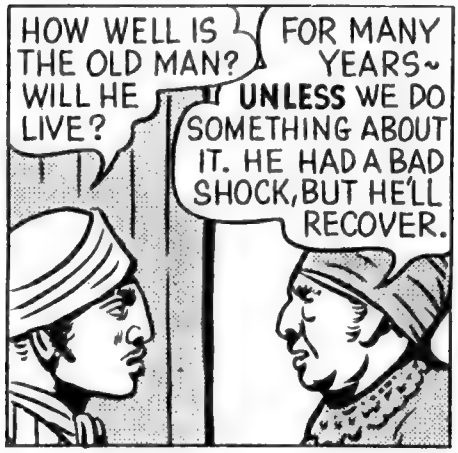
POOR DADDY NEEDS REST. IF I EVER FIND THE MEN WHO KIDNAPPED HIM ~~!
12-16

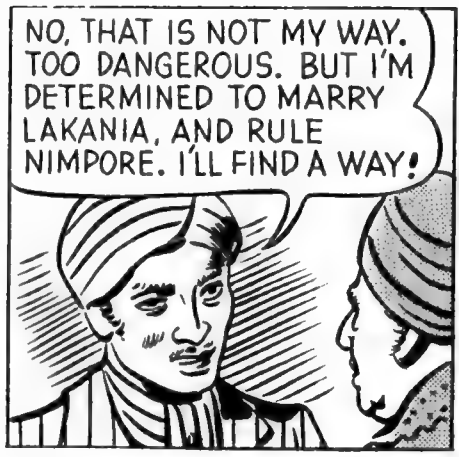
WELL, THE MAHARAJAH IS BACK.
YES ~ ALL MY PLANS FOR TAKING THIS KINGDOM ARE RUINED ~ -TEMPORARILY ~

WHAT NOW?
WE'LL WAIT AND WATCH ~ I HAVE AN IDEA ~~


RAJAH SIMBAL AND DR. SORAN ~ THEY ARE TOGETHER A LOT ~ WONDER WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT?

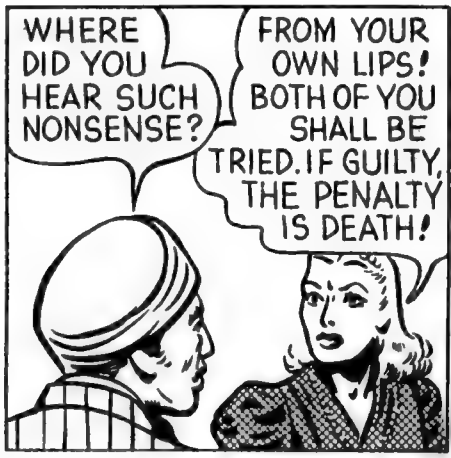
YES, OUR PLANS TO KIDNAP THE MAHARAJAH FAILED~~ BUT AT LEAST NO ONE SUSPECTS WE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT.
12-18


HOW WELL IS THE OLD MAN? WILL HE LIVE?
FOR MANY YEARS~ UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. HE HAD A BAD SHOCK, BUT HE'LL RECOVER.


NO, THAT IS NOT MY WAY. TOO DANGEROUS. BUT I'M DETERMINED TO MARRY LAKANIA, AND RULE NIMPORE. I'LL FIND A WAY!

AND PRINCESS LAKANIA, DAUGHTER OF THE MAHA~RAJAH, HAS HEARD EVERY WORD!
I DOUBT THAT, RAJAH SIMBAL!

RAJAH SIMBAL, MY SUITOR! AND DR. SORAN, MY FATHER'S DOCTOR! SO YOU KIDNAPPED MY FATHER!


WHERE DID YOU HEAR SUCH NONSENSE?
FROM YOUR OWN LIPS! BOTH OF YOU SHALL BE TRIED. IF GUILTY, THE PENALTY IS DEATH!

YOU FORGET, THEY MUST CATCH US BEFORE THEY CAN TRY US! WATCH THE DOOR, SORAN!
12-19

RAJAH, WE ARE IN THE ROYAL PALACE ~ SHE IS THE PRINCESS~~
DON'T BABBLE LIKE A FOOL. IT MEANS OUR LIVES!
12-20

A GUARD IS COMING!
QUICK~~ THIS WAY!

WHAT'LL WE DO WITH HER?
GET HER OUT OF HERE, OF COURSE!

I DON'T LIKE THIS, RAJAH. WE MAY BE SEEN.
NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO. HOLD HER STILL.

THE CAR IS READY.

THIS IS AWFULLY RISKY! WHAT IF THE GUARDS STOP US?
WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT CHANCE.
12-21

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LAKANIA IS WELL-HIDDEN~ BUT WHAT IF SHE ESCAPES?
SHE WON'T. STOP WORRYING, SORAN. YOU'RE LIKE AN OLD WOMAN.
12-22

THIS IS DIANA PALMER. MAY I SPEAK TO PRINCESS LAKANIA, PLEASE?

THIS IS DR. SORAN. THE PRINCESS IS NOT HERE. SHE HAS GONE AWAY ON A TRIP.
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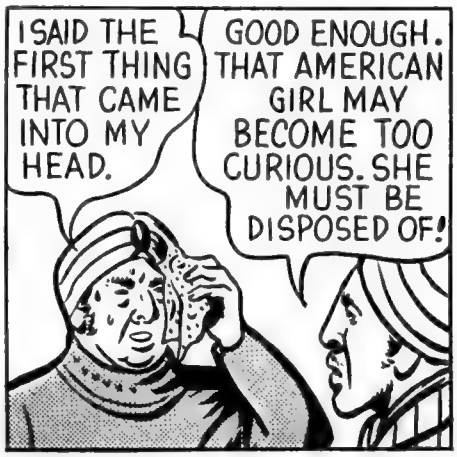
I SAID THE FIRST THING THAT CAME INTO MY HEAD.
GOOD ENOUGH. THAT AMERICAN GIRL MAY BECOME TOO CURIOUS. SHE MUST BE DISPOSED OF!

IT'S STRANGE THAT LAKANIA WOULD GO AWAY SO SUDDENLY. YOU'D THINK SHE'D HAVE TOLD ME SHE WAS LEAVING.
12-23

BESIDES, I CAN'T IMAGINE HER LEAVING, WITH HER FATHER SO ILL.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THESE FOREIGNERS WILL DO.

YOU FORGET, MAMA, THAT WE'RE THE FOREIGNERS, HERE.
US, FOREIGNERS? WHAT AN IDEA!

LATER, AS THEY SLEEP~~
CONT'D.

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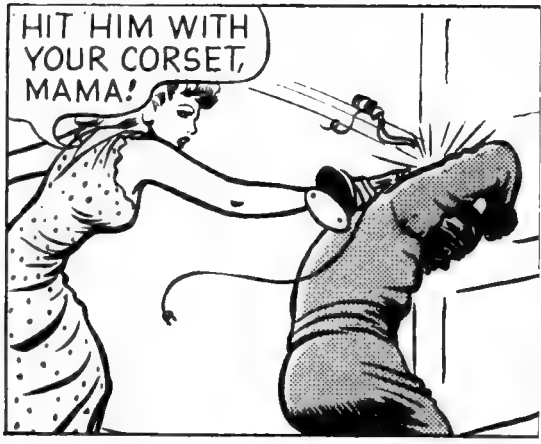
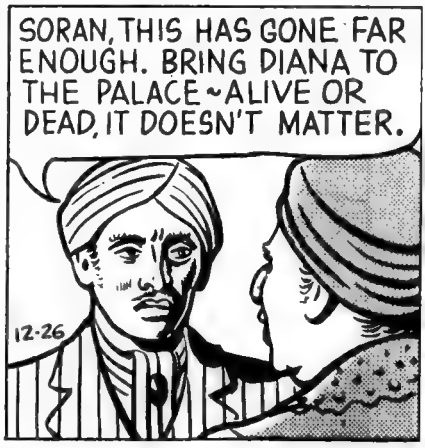
DIANA STRIKES AT THE THUG WITH HER BED LAMP~~
MAMA!
12-25


HIT HIM WITH YOUR CORSET, MAMA!

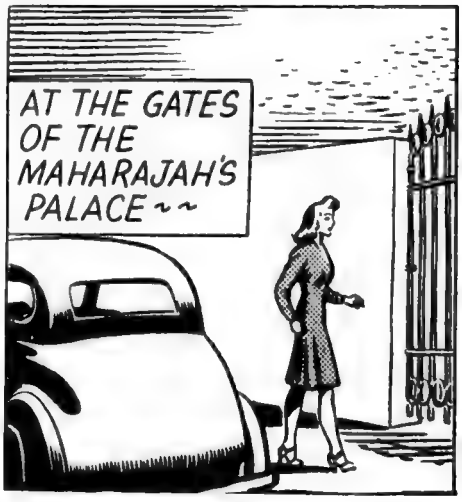
GET OUT, YOU NASTY THING!

BUT, RAJAH, HIGHNESS, THE WOMEN SCREAMED~THEY WOULD HAVE AWAKENED THE WHOLE HOTEL~~
FOOL!

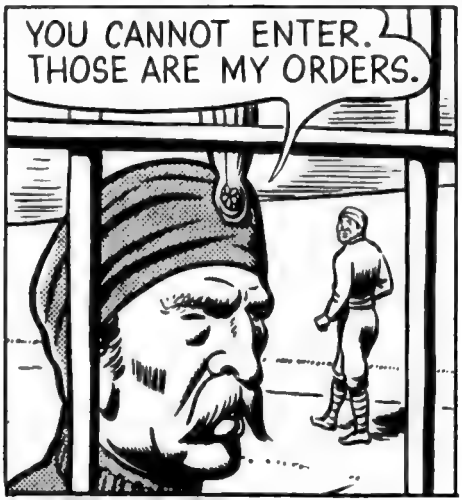

SORAN, THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH. BRING DIANA TO THE PALACE~ALIVE OR DEAD, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
12-26

SUCH EXCITEMENT, DIANA! THAT HORRIBLE SNEAK THIEF!
YOU ALMOST BRAINED HIM WITH YOUR CORSET, MAMA.

IT'S STRANGE LAKANIA DISAPPEARED. I'M GOING TO THE PALACE.
I WISH YOU'D FORGET THE WHOLE THING.


AT THE GATES OF THE MAHARAJAH'S PALACE~~

BUT I AM DIANA PALMER, A FRIEND OF THE PRINCESS LAKANIA. I WAS HERE YESTERDAY!


YOU CANNOT ENTER. THOSE ARE MY ORDERS.

THAT MAN~BACK THERE~HE'S THE SAME ONE WHO TRIED TO BURGLE OUR ROOM! WHAT'S HE DOING AT THE PALACE?
12-27

THEY WOULDN'T LET ME IN THE PALACE~THEN I SAW THAT THIEF WHO TRIED TO ENTER OUR ROOM!
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FIRST, LAKANIA GOES AWAY, UNEXPECTEDLY! NOW THIS! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PALACE!

DIANA, IT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS! I WON'T HAVE YOU GOING TO THAT PALACE!

BUT DIANA IS CURIOUS, AND THAT NIGHT~~
I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS
JAIL
12-28

NIGHT~~DIANA ENTERS THE PALACE GROUNDS~~
12-29

SO FAR, SO GOOD. IF I CAN FIND LAKANIA~~

I'LL TELL HER ABOUT THAT THIEF ON THE PALACE GROUNDS. AND HOW I WASNT ALLOWED TO ENTER AND~~

TWO A.M. AND DIANA'S NOT BACK YET. WHAT'LL I DO?

OH, WHY DID SHE GO TO THAT PALACE? WHY DID WE COME TO THIS OUTLANDISH COUNTRY IN THE FIRST PLACE?

I HEARD A NOISE~~ IN THIS ROOM!

THERE'S SOMEONE~~ BEHIND~~ THAT~ CURTAIN~!
12-30

SOMEONE~ BEHIND~~ CURTAINS ~OH~
HELLO, MAMA~

MAMA! DON'T FAINT. IT'S ME!
OOH~I WILL FAINT, IF I WANT TO!

YOU ALMOST GAVE ME HEART~FAILURE! WHY CAN'T YOU COME THRU THE DOOR, LIKE AN ORDINARY HUMAN BEING?
1-1

DIANA WENT ALONE TO THE PALACE~ I'M AFRAID~~
NOW, MAMA, WHAT COULD HAPPEN TO HER?

MEANWHILE, IN THE CHAMBER OF THE MAHARAJAH~
NO, I DON'T WANT ANY MORE ICE CREAM, DR SORAN. I WISH TO SEE MY DAUGHTER AT ONCE!

SO THE OLD MAN WANTS TO SEE HIS DAUGHTER! THAT'S BAD~ WELL~WHAT'S THIS?
I FOUND THIS GIRL IN THE GARDEN, HIGHNESS.
THE AMERICAN! WHAT LUCK!
1-2

HOW FORTUNATE YOU SHOULD COME. I WAS ABOUT TO SEND FOR YOU!

WHERE IS THE PRINCESS?
CURIOUS LITTLE THING, AREN'T YOU? YOU RUINED MY PLANS ONCE!

AT THAT TIME, I FELT THAT I COULD WRING YOUR NECK WITH PLEASURE!

IN FACT, I BELIEVE I WILL!
1-3

YOUR HIGHNESS! WAIT!

WELL, DOCTOR SORAN?
REMEMBER, THE OLD MAN WANTS TO SEE HIS DAUGHTER, THE PRINCESS.

THAT'S TOO BAD. HE CAN'T. SHE'S NOT HERE
I KNOW- BUT HE'S ILL ~ HIS EYES ARE BAD~~
1-4

SHE MIGHT PASS FOR THE PRINCESS ~ IN A POORLY LIGHTED ROOM.
HMM~~

IF YOU ARE TO PASS FOR LAKANIA, YOU'LL HAVE TO WEAR SOME OF HER CLOTHES~~

NO~~ I WON'T~
IF YOU WISH TO LIVE, PUT THIS ON!

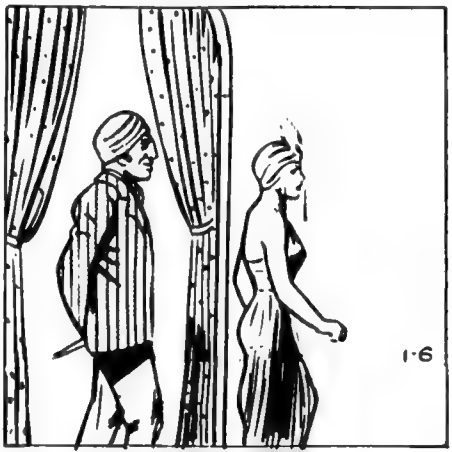
DO YOU THINK THE MAHARAJAH WILL RECOGNIZE HER?
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

AH~~ PERFECT!
1-5

WHERE IS MY DAUGHTER, DR. SORAN?
COMING, EXCELLENCY.

IF YOU LET OUT A PEEP, I'LL KILL YOU! BELIEVE ME!
I BELIEVE YOU.

WHAT IF THE OLD MAN SEES SHE'S NOT THE PRINCESS?
IN THAT CASE WE'LL KILL BOTH OF THEM!


1-6

IS THAT MY DAUGHTER COMING, DR SORAN?
YES, EXCELLENCY.

GOOD EVENING, EXCELLENCY. HOW WELL YOU'RE LOOKING.

AH, MY LITTLE LAKANIA~~ HOW I'VE MISSED YOU~

THE SHADES ARE DRAWN, THE LIGHTS ARE DIM, WILL THE GREAT DECEPTION SUCCEED?
1·8

GOODNIGHT, DEAR DAUGHTER. COME TO SEE ME AGAIN TOMORROW.

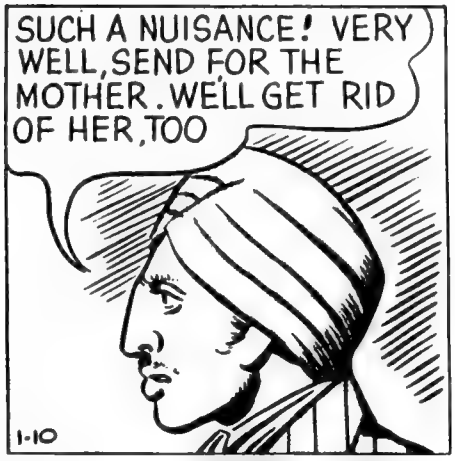
IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM! HE THOUGHT SHE WAS LAKANIA!

FOOLING THAT POOR OLD MAN! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH LAKANIA? KILLED HER?

NO. SHE IS LUCKIER THAN YOU. YOU SEE, WE NEED HER ALIVE.
1·9

DISPOSE OF THIS GIRL, SORAN, WE NEED HER NO LONGER

BUT, RAJAH~~SHE HAS A MOTHER AT THE HOTEL. IF THE GIRL DOESN'T RETURN~~

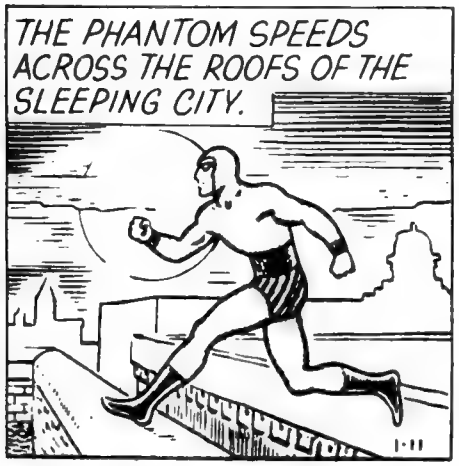

SUCH A NUISANCE! VERY WELL, SEND FOR THE MOTHER. WE'LL GET RID OF HER, TOO
1·10

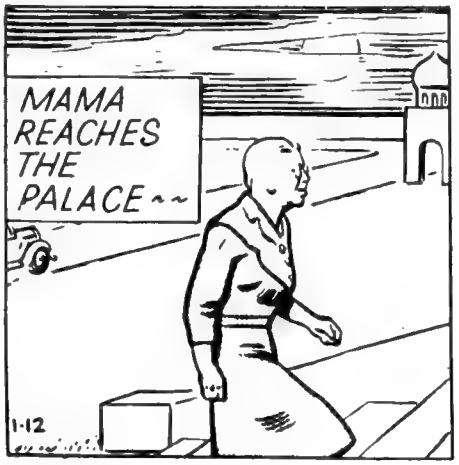
DIANA WANTS ME TO COME TO THE PALACE~~AT THIS HOUR?
YES, AT ONCE, MRS. PALMER.

WAIT DOWNSTAIRS. I'LL GET DRESSED AND BE RIGHT DOWN.
YES, MRS. PALMER.

IT'S ALL SO STRANGE. FIRST, DIANA COULDN'T GET INTO THE PALACE. NOW SHE SENDS FOR ME. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

GO AHEAD, MAMA, I'LL FOLLOW.


THE PHANTOM SPEEDS ACROSS THE ROOFS OF THE SLEEPING CITY.
1-11


MAMA REACHES THE PALACE ~~
1-12

AH, MRS. PALMER. COME WITH ME. DIANA IS WAITING FOR YOU.

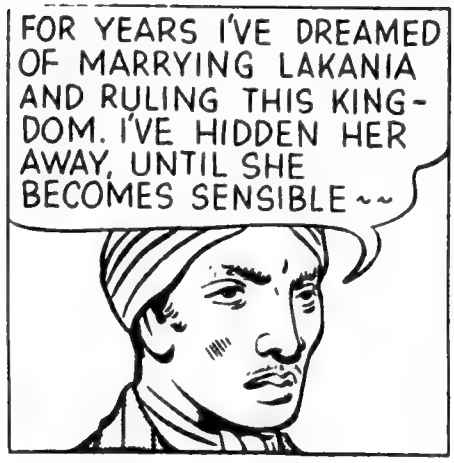
MAMA! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE ~~
DIANA! ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? PUT ON YOUR CLOTHES AT ONCE.

DIANA, THE IDEA! WEARING SUCH AN OUTFIT IN FRONT OF~~
MAMA~ CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND? WE'RE PRISONERS!

PRISONERS?
NOT FOR LONG, MADAM.

YOU WILL BE FREED VERY SHORTLY~~ BY DEATH~~
THE QUICKEST AND MOST PAINLESS METHOD, WE PROMISE YOU.
1-13

YOU MAY THINK ME CRUEL~~
IF MAMA WASN'T HERE. I'D TELL YOU WHAT I THINK.
DON'T MIND ME, DIANA.


FOR YEARS I'VE DREAMED OF MARRYING LAKANIA AND RULING THIS KINGDOM. I'VE HIDDEN HER AWAY, UNTIL SHE BECOMES SENSIBLE~~

YOU MAY SPOIL MY CHANCES. SO YOU MUST DIE. BEING AMERICANS, YOU MUST LIKE ICE CREAM.
ICE CREAM?
1-15

THE OLD MAHARAJAH HAS A WEAKNESS FOR AMERICAN ICE CREAM~~

THE PALACE COOKS ALWAYS HAVE A LARGE SUPPLY ON HAND~~KEPT COLD WITH **DRY ICE**~~

THE GAS FROM THE DRY ICE IS **DEADLY**~ BUT NOT TOO UNPLEASANT.

AND THAT'S THAT!
1-16

IT'S COLD IN HERE! YOU POOR CHILD. YOU MUST BE FREEZING!

ARE THEY CRAZY? PUTTING US IN HERE WITH ALL THIS ICE CREAM?
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, MAMA?

THE FUMES FROM THE DRY ICE WILL KILL US~~

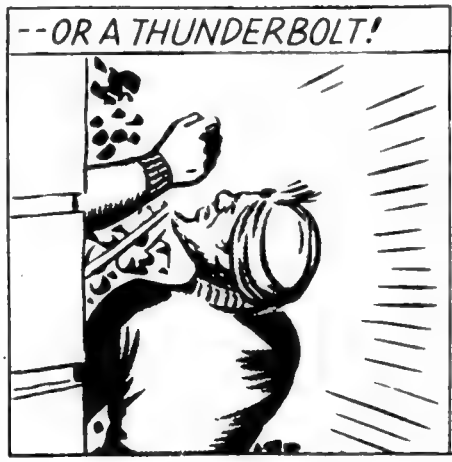
~~UNLESS WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE~ AND I'M AFRAID~~WE CAN'T~~
1-17

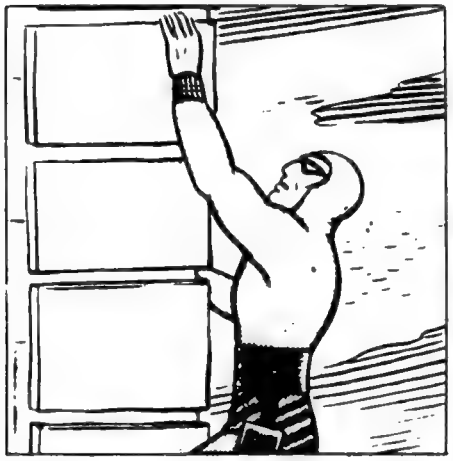
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE, DR. SORAN?
PERHAPS AN HOUR OR LESS, I'M NOT SURE, RAJAH SIMBAL.

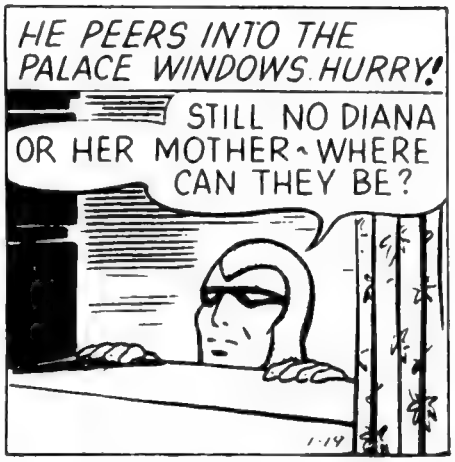
IF ONLY HE HAD COME WITH ME~~
WHO, MAMA?

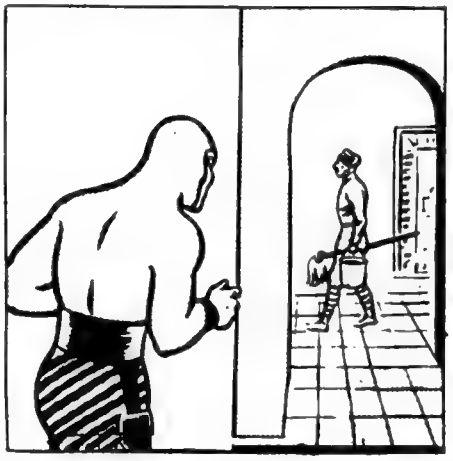
HE~~THE PHANTOM! HE CAME TO SEE YOU.
WHAT! OH, MAMA, HE'LL FIND US. I KNOW HE WILL!

I HEARD SOMETHING~~ MAYBE IT WAS THE WIND~


--OR A THUNDERBOLT!




HE PEERS INTO THE PALACE WINDOWS. HURRY!
STILL NO DIANA OR HER MOTHER~WHERE CAN THEY BE?
1-19



HE SEARCHES THRU THE VAST PALACE~~
WHERE CAN DIANA AND HER MOTHER BE?

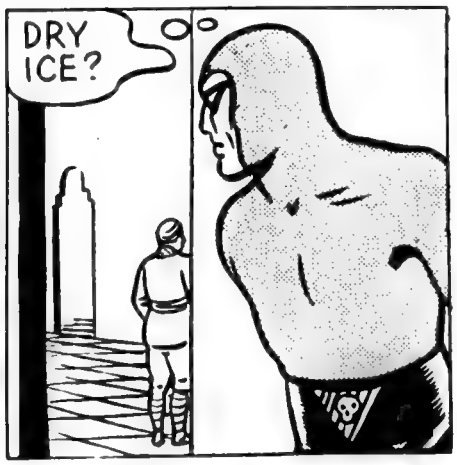
THE DRY ICE FUMES IN THE VAULT ARE BECOMING STRONGER~~
IT'S SO COLD~AND THAT HORRIBLE ODOR~

OH, MAMA, EVEN IF HE FINDS US~I'M AFRAID IT'LL BE~~TOO LATE~~
1-20

OH, MAMA, IF ONLY I COULD HAVE KEPT YOU OUT OF THIS ~~

I WONDER HOW LONG THE GAS FROM THAT DRY ICE TAKES? MAYBE WE'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK, SORAN.

I'M NOT SURE, RAJAH SIMBAL. WE'D BETTER WAIT ANOTHER FIFTEEN MINUTES.
1-22

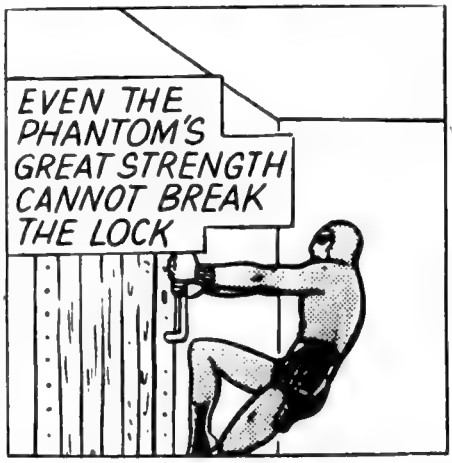

DRY ICE?

AS THE PALACE CHEF WALKS ALONG A CORRIDOR NEAR THE KITCHEN ~~

WHERE IS THE DRY ICE?
DRY ~~ICE? FOR THE ICE CREAM, YOU MEAN? ~IN THE VAULT~~BUT~

SORRY, CHEF, BUT I HAVE NT TIME TO TIE YOU. YOU'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW TOMORROW.

DIANA MUST BE IN THERE. IF I CAN GET THAT DOOR OPEN ~~
1-23

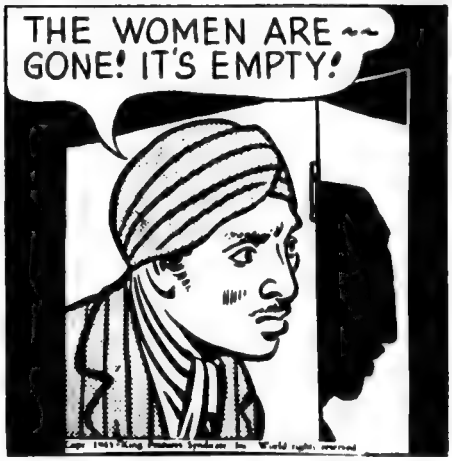

EVEN THE PHANTOM'S GREAT STRENGTH CANNOT BREAK THE LOCK

I'LL HAVE TO RISK WAKING THE WHOLE PALACE ~~

DIANA ~~ MRS. PALMER ~~
1-24

A SHOT!
HURRY ~ TO THE VAULT!

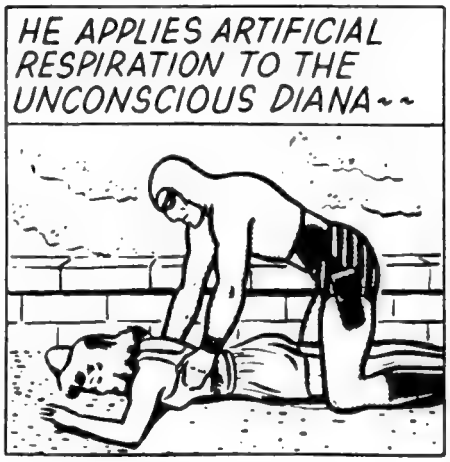
SOMEONE'S BROKEN INTO THE VAULT!
LET ME AT THEM!


THE WOMEN ARE ~~ GONE! IT'S EMPTY!

WHO COULD HAVE TAKEN THEM OUT~~AND SO QUICKLY? THAT SHOT ONLY RANG OUT A FEW SECONDS AGO~~LOOK!

THE SIGN OF THE SKULL!
1-25

OF ALL THE LOATHSOME TRICKS! TRYING TO KILL THEM WITH GAS


HE APPLIES ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION TO THE UNCONSCIOUS DIANA~~

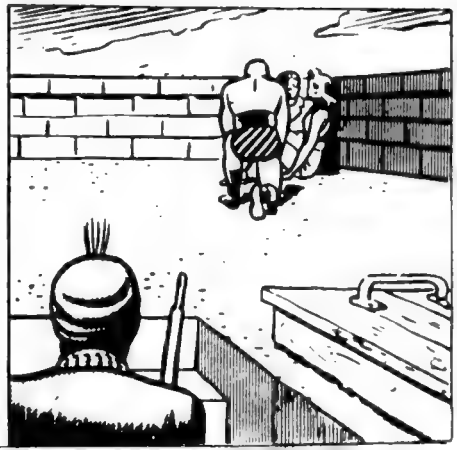
~THEN TO HER MOTHER~~
IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE~~

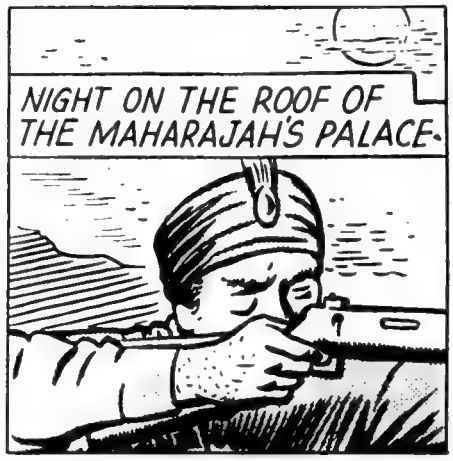
THE MARK OF THE PHANTOM!
CALL OUT THE GUARD! IF THEY ESCAPE, WE'RE DONE FOR!
1-26

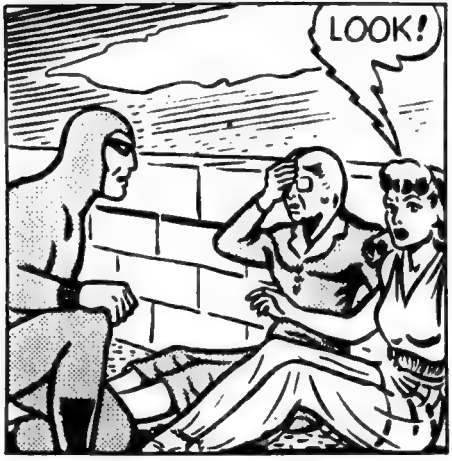
THE PHANTOM WORKS TIRELESSLY, APPLYING ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION. DIANA REVIVES FIRST~~

I KNEW~~ YOU'D COME~~

MEANWHILE, AS DOZENS OF GUARDS SCOUR THE PALACE GROUNDS FOR THE PHANTOM~~
WE HAVEN'T LOOKED ON THE ROOF.
1-27




NIGHT ON THE ROOF OF THE MAHARAJAH'S PALACE.


LOOK!

HAS A DEAD BEAD ON ME. EVEN IF HE MISSES, HE MIGHT HIT THE WOMEN~~
1-29

HELLO. NICE NIGHT, ISN'T IT?
HUH?
TOMORROW~ SMART GUARD.

WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?
LOOKING FOR YOU! WHY, THE WHOLE PALACE IS~~

JUST THINK! THAT MAKES YOU THE SMARTEST ONE OF THEM ALL!
WHY?

TENSE AS A STEEL SPRING, THE PHANTOM WATCHES HIS CHANCE. THEN DIVES IN~~
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO FOUND ME!
UGH~~
1-30

THE PHANTOM AND THE GUARD SPIN DOWN THE STEEP STAIRS~~

~RIGHT INTO THE MIDDLE OF A PACK OF THE RAJAH'S MEN!

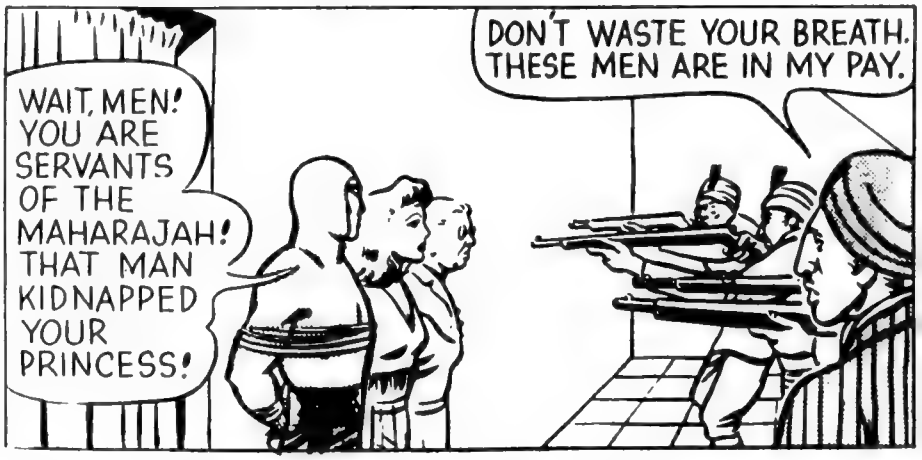
IN FACT, A WHOLE SLEW OF THEM!

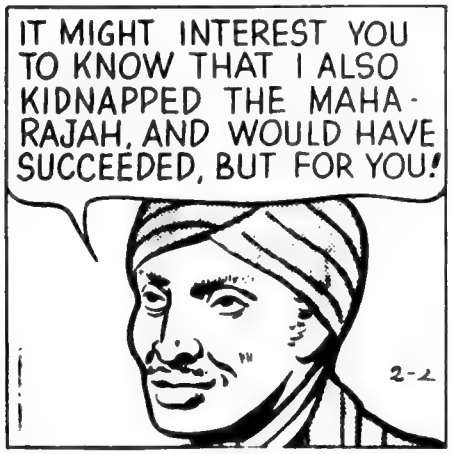
TWENTY TO ONE. HE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE.
1-31

TRAPPED IN A NARROW CORRIDOR, THE PHANTOM GOES DOWN UNDER A HEAP OF MEN!

I DID MY BEST, DIANA
IF YOU HADN'T WASTED TIME ON US ~ THEY'D NEVER HAVE GOTTEN YOU.

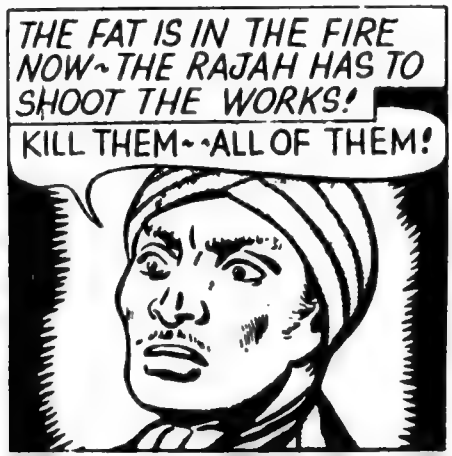
VERY TOUCHING. SHOOT THEM DOWN, RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE!
TOMORROW ~ VERY INTERESTING!

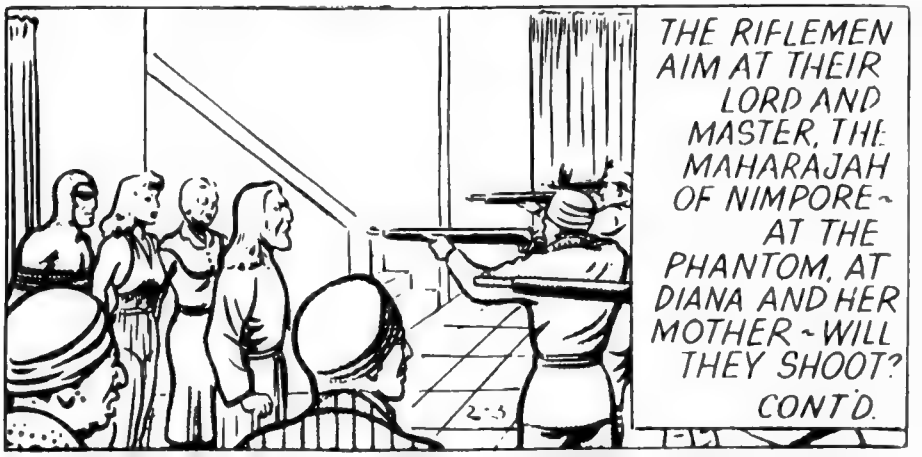

WAIT, MEN! YOU ARE SERVANTS OF THE MAHARAJAH! THAT MAN KIDNAPPED YOUR PRINCESS!
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH. THESE MEN ARE IN MY PAY.


IT MIGHT INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT I ALSO KIDNAPPED THE MAHARAJAH, AND WOULD HAVE SUCCEEDED, BUT FOR YOU!

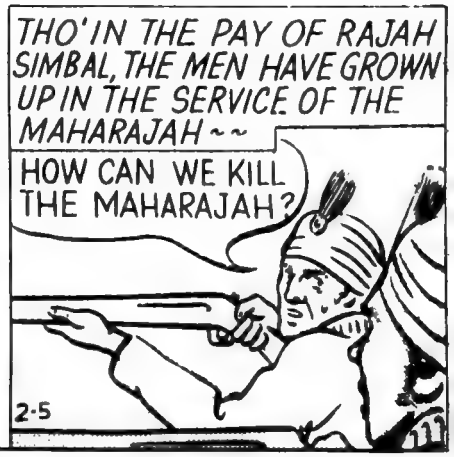
THE MAHARAJAH!
I FIND IT MOST INTERESTING, RAJAH SIMBAL!

I HEARD EVERYTHING, YOU WRETCH! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH MY DAUGHTER?


THE FAT IS IN THE FIRE NOW ~ THE RAJAH HAS TO SHOOT THE WORKS!
KILL THEM ~ ALL OF THEM!


THE RIFLEMEN AIM AT THEIR LORD AND MASTER, THE MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE ~ AT THE PHANTOM, AT DIANA AND HER MOTHER ~ WILL THEY SHOOT?
CONT'D.

RAJAH AGAINST MAHARAJAH
PUT DOWN YOUR GUNS.
FIRE, YOU FOOLS! FIRE!


THO'IN THE PAY OF RAJAH SIMBAL, THE MEN HAVE GROWN UP IN THE SERVICE OF THE MAHARAJAH~~
HOW CAN WE KILL THE MAHARAJAH?
2-5

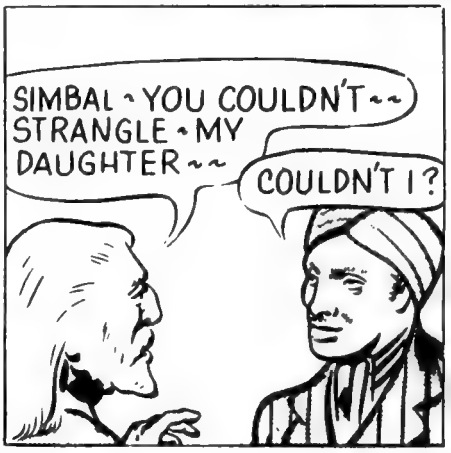
THE DECISION IS MADE ~AND RAJAH SIMBAL FEELS THE TOUCH OF THE HANGMAN'S ROPE AROUND HIS NECK~~
WE CANNOT KILL THE OLD MAN.

SEIZE THAT SCOUNDREL!
WAIT!

TRUE, EXCELLENCY, I KIDNAPPED YOUR DAUGHTER, LAKANIA. I ALONE KNOW WHERE SHE IS.

"SHE IS WELL-GUARDED BY A THUGGEE WITH A SILKEN NOOSE"
2-6

IF HARM COMES TO ME, SHE WILL BE STRANGLED~~ AT ONCE!

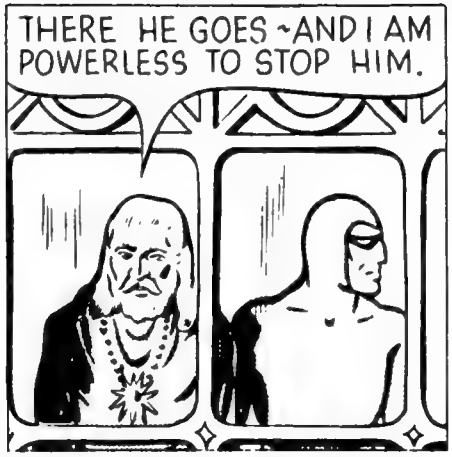

SIMBAL ~ YOU COULDN'T~~ STRANGLE ~ MY DAUGHTER~~
COULDN'T I?

UNTIE ME. I'LL GO TO WORK ON HIM
NO! GO, RAJAH SIMBAL.

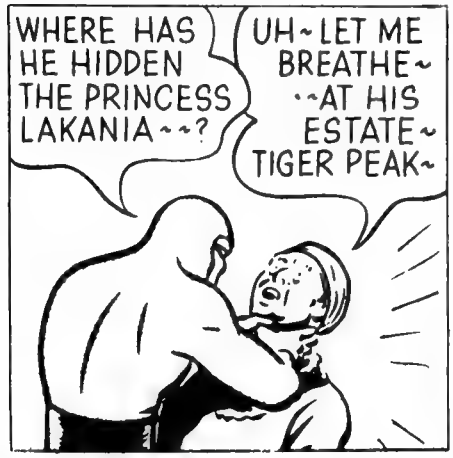
WAIT, RAJAH, YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME HERE!
I DON'T NEED YOU ANY MORE, DR. SORAN, YOU FAT FOOL.

I'LL SEND RANSOM TERMS FOR THE RETURN OF THE PRINCESS~~~ AS SOON AS I DECIDE HOW MUCH I WANT GOOD NIGHT, ALL.
2-7

SMILING ARROGANTLY RAJAH SIMBAL DRIVES OFF, MOCKING THE MIGHT OF THE MAHA-RAJAH~~

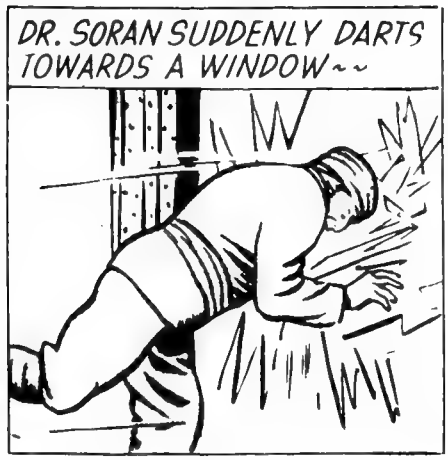

THERE HE GOES ~AND I AM POWERLESS TO STOP HIM.

AND AS DR. SORAN TRIES TO ESCAPE IN THE CONFUSION~
2·8


WHERE HAS HE HIDDEN THE PRINCESS LAKANIA~~?
UH~LET ME BREATHE~ ~AT HIS ESTATE~ TIGER PEAK~

SORAN~ MY OWN DOCTOR
I GAMBLED FOR YOUR KINGDOM, I LOST.

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN RAJAH SIMBAL WOULD DOUBLE-CROSS ME HE'S A FIEND, DON'T TRUST HIM~~
2·9


DR. SORAN SUDDENLY DARTS TOWARDS A WINDOW~~

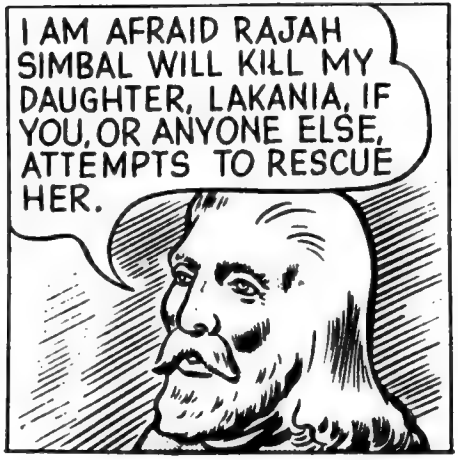
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND A NEW DOCTOR, YOUR EXCELLENCY.

WHAT IS THIS? AREN'T THESE YOUR MEN?

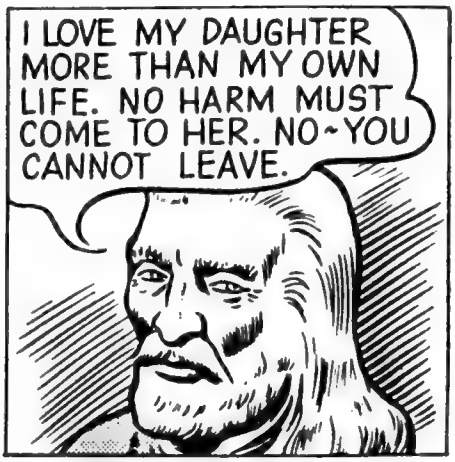
WHAT GOOD IS ALL MY WEALTH~~ IF I CAN'T SAVE MY DAUGHTER FROM THAT FIEND?
I'LL LEAVE AT ONCE, EXCELLENCY. I CAN STILL CATCH RAJAH SIMBAL~AND BRING YOUR DAUGHTER BACK.
2·10

I'VE GIVEN ORDERS THAT YOU ARE NOT TO LEAVE THIS PALACE.
BUT WHY? I WANT TO SAVE YOUR DAUGHTER. IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

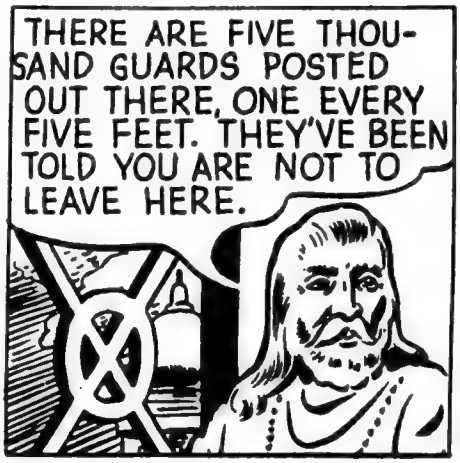
EXCELLENCY, PLEASE TELL ME WHY YOU WON'T LET ME LEAVE YOUR PALACE.

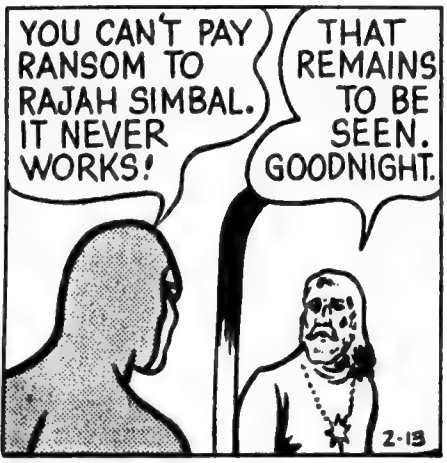

I AM AFRAID RAJAH SIMBAL WILL KILL MY DAUGHTER, LAKANIA, IF YOU, OR ANYONE ELSE, ATTEMPTS TO RESCUE HER.

HE WILL ASK A RANSOM. I WILL PAY ANYTHING.
EXCELLENCY, YOU CAN'T DEAL WITH KIDNAPPERS THAT WAY!
2-12


I LOVE MY DAUGHTER MORE THAN MY OWN LIFE. NO HARM MUST COME TO HER. NO~YOU CANNOT LEAVE.

YOU MEAN, WE'RE PRISONERS HERE?
NO, MY CHILD, YOU ARE MY GUESTS.


THERE ARE FIVE THOUSAND GUARDS POSTED OUT THERE, ONE EVERY FIVE FEET. THEY'VE BEEN TOLD YOU ARE NOT TO LEAVE HERE.


YOU CAN'T PAY RANSOM TO RAJAH SIMBAL. IT NEVER WORKS!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN. GOODNIGHT.
2-13

TIME I WAS GOING, DIANA.
GOING? HOW? THOSE GUARDS ARE THICKER THAN FLEAS! FIVE THOUSAND OF THEM!

HE CAN'T ESCAPE THROUGH FIVE THOUSAND GUARDS. OH, DARLING, COME BACK!
2-14

I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE, IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO

THERE HE GOES~~
TOWARD THE ROYAL STABLES!

THE PHANTOM HAS A PLAN~WHAT IS IT?

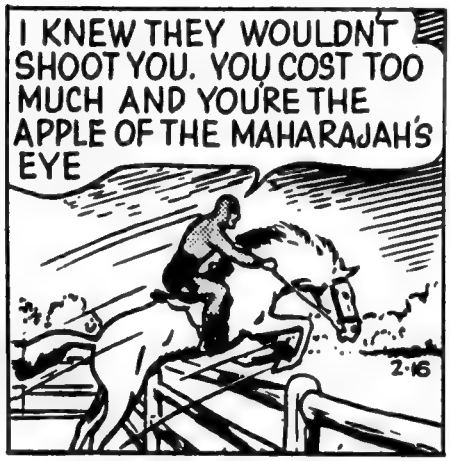
THE MAHA-RAJAH'S GUARDS SURROUND THE ROYAL STABLES-- BELIEVING THEY'VE TRAPPED THE PHANTOM-

LUCKY I REMEMBERED YOU, BOY. THE MAHARAJAH'S FAVORITE RACER--
ROYAL HERO

ONE OF THE WORLD'S FASTEST--AND MOST EXPENSIVE HORSES-- COST NEARLY A MILLION
2-15

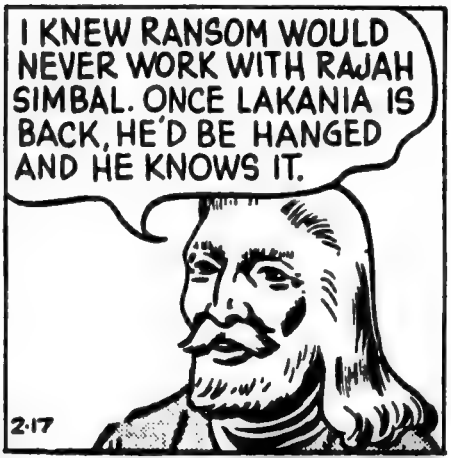
LET'S SEE IF YOU'RE WORTH IT, ROYAL HERO!

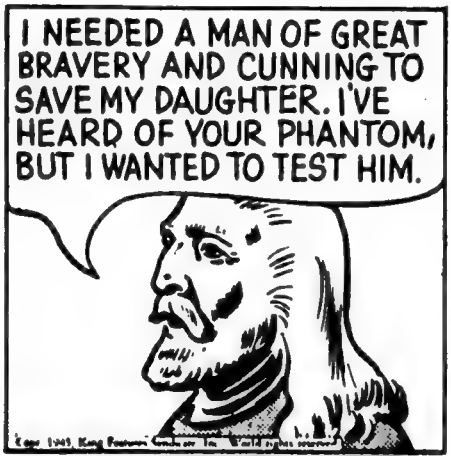
GANGWAY!
DON'T SHOOT, FOOL- HE'S RIDING ROYAL HERO!


I KNEW THEY WOULDN'T SHOOT YOU. YOU COST TOO MUCH AND YOU'RE THE APPLE OF THE MAHARAJAH'S EYE
2-16

EXCELLENCY, HE ESCAPED ON ROYAL HERO.
THAT'S GOOD!
GOOD?

WHY, YOU'RE HAPPY THE PHANTOM ESCAPED!
I AM, INDEED, MY DEAR.


I KNEW RANSOM WOULD NEVER WORK WITH RAJAH SIMBAL. ONCE LAKANIA IS BACK, HE'D BE HANGED AND HE KNOWS IT.
2-17


I NEEDED A MAN OF GREAT BRAVERY AND CUNNING TO SAVE MY DAUGHTER. I'VE HEARD OF YOUR PHANTOM, BUT I WANTED TO TEST HIM.

ANY MAN WHO CAN ESCAPE FIVE THOUSAND GUARDS CAN DO ANYTHING!

I FEEL BETTER, MR. MAHA-RAJAH, BUT THAT ICE-ROOM BROUGHT ON A TOUCH OF MY OLD ARTHRITIS.

IT GETS ME IN THE ARMS.
I HAVE A TOUCH OF IT OCCASIONALLY, IN MY NECK.

..AND ALL THE DOCTORS SAID I HAD A REMARKABLE RECOVERY.
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT MY OPERATION, MRS. PALMER.

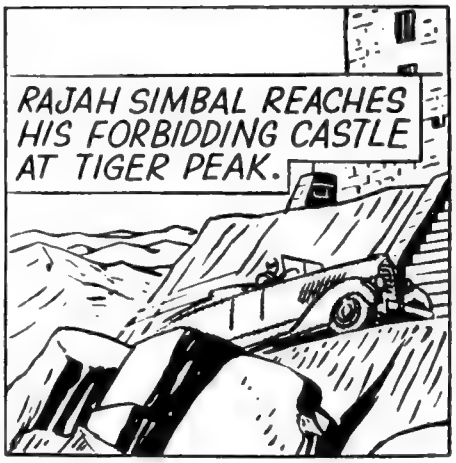
MAMA AND THE MAHA-RAJAH ARE GETTING ALONG FINE! BUT WHERE IS HE? OH, DARLING - BE CAREFUL ~~
2-19

THE MAHARAJAH WON'T MIND MY BORROWING YOU, SINCE WE'RE GOING AFTER HIS DAUGHTER.
2-20

WE PICK UP THE THIRD MEMBER OF OUR PARTY HERE.

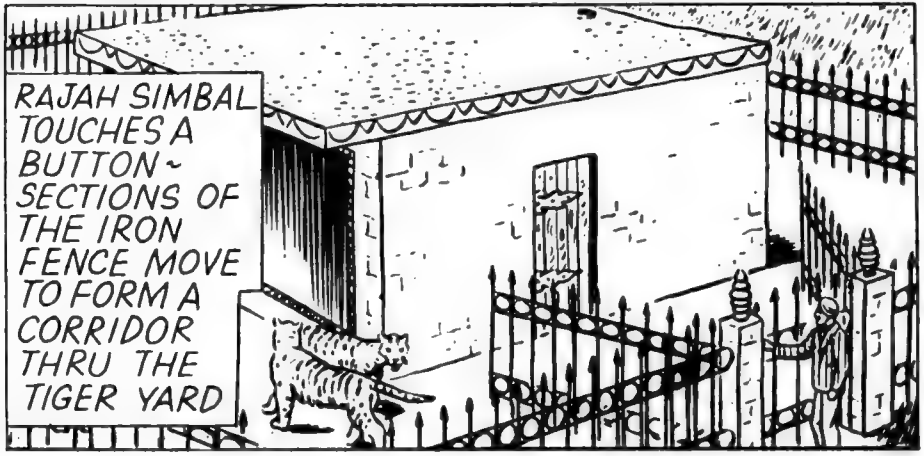
"DEVIL", MEET HERO.

LET RAJAH SIMBAL DO HIS WORST. THIS COM-BINATION WILL BE HARD TO BEAT.


RAJAH SIMBAL REACHES HIS FORBIDDING CASTLE AT TIGER PEAK.

IS SHE ALRIGHT?
SHE HAS BEEN GUARDED WELL, HIGHNESS.
2-21

AH, THERE SHE IS! MY LOVELY PRINCESS LAKANIA
WELL-GUARDED, --INDEED.


RAJAH SIMBAL TOUCHES A BUTTON~ SECTIONS OF THE IRON FENCE MOVE TO FORM A CORRIDOR THRU THE TIGER YARD

RIMA! NIMA! YOU'VE DONE A GOOD JOB!

YOU~~ HORRIBLE~
DON'T SAY IT, LAKANIA DEAR, REMEMBER YOU ARE A PRINCESS, AND A LADY.
2 22

AND WHEN I LEAST EXPECT IT, THAT HORRIBLE MAN POPS OUT OF THE FLOOR
JUST KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU, LAKANIA. MY THUGGEES NEVER SLEEP, AND THEY NEVER FAIL ME.
2-23

I TRUST YOU'VE BEEN COMFORTABLE, LAKANIA
COMFORTABLE?

WITH THOSE TIGERS OUTSIDE THIS WINDOW DAY AND NIGHT?
THE WINDOW IS OF SPECIAL GLASS. THEY CANNOT BREAK IT.

RAJAH SIMBAL, YOU'RE MAD~ WITH YOUR TIGERS AND THUGGEES! THAT BELONGS TO THE MIDDLE AGES!
PERHAPS I DO, TOO.

I HAVE ANOTHER OLD~ FASHIONED IDEA. I INTEND TO MARRY YOU, AND INHERIT YOUR FATHER'S KINGDOM. WHETHER YOU LIKE IT~~OR NOT!

HIGHNESS, A MAN IS COMING TO TIGER PEAK! HE WEARS A STRANGE COSTUME AND~~
THE PHANTOM!

DOWN THERE. RAJAH SIMBAL, HIGHNESS.
I ~~ SEE.

IT IS THE PHANTOM. HE DARED FOLLOW ME! STRANGERS ARE RARE AT TIGER PEAK.
2-26

RIMA AND NIMI WILL GIVE HIM A WARM WELCOME!

COME RIMA AND NIMI. WE MUST BE HOSPITABLE. A GUEST IS COMING.
2-27

THE HUGE TIGERS MOVE THRU AN IRON RUNWAY THAT IS BUILT FAR DOWN THE SLOPE ~~

~TO A CAGE BUILT INTO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD BY WHICH THE PHANTOM MUST PASS! TIGER PEAK IS WELL-NAMED!

SO THAT'S THE RAJAH'S HANG-OUT. GLOOMY LITTLE BUNGALOW.

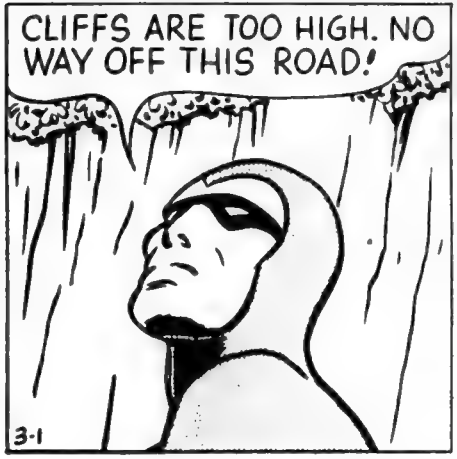
IN HIS CASTLE THE RAJAH PULLS A LEVER IN THE WALL~~
2-28

FAR BELOW, ON THE ROAD, THE CAGE DOOR SLOWLY RISES~~

WHAT'S THE MATTER, HERO? SOMETHING AROUND THAT BEND IN THE ROAD?

WHOA, HERO!

THE GROWL OF A TIGER IS A TERRIFYING THING! TWO GROWLS ARE EVEN WORSE.


CLIFFS ARE TOO HIGH. NO WAY OFF THIS ROAD!
3-1

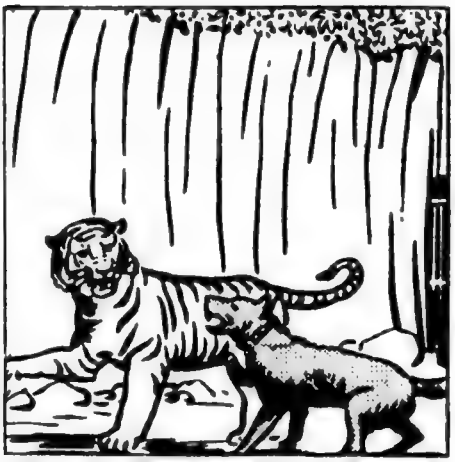
TIGERS LOVE HORSEFLESH! HUMAN FLESH, TOO! THIS ONE IS HUNGRY! HE CAN HARDLY WAIT!

THE GREAT CAT LEAPS, BUT MISSES HIS MARK, AS HERO DARTS TO THE SIDE ~~

MARVELOUS! THE CATS ARE PLAYING WITH THEM! THEY'VE GOT THEM, TRAPPED LIKE RATS!
3-2

ONE TIGER WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH! TWO ARE A PROBLEM!

"DEVIL" AND "HERO" HARRY THE FIRST TIGER ~ "DEVIL" WITH HIS SHARP TEETH AND BARK ~~ "HERO" WITH HIS POWERFUL HOOFS ~~



THE SECOND TIGER MAKES THE PHANTOM HIS TARGET, AND SPRINGS AT HIM ~~
3-3

THE TIGER IS DEAD BEFORE IT HITS THE GROUND--

MEANWHILE, "DEVIL" AND "HERO", THE WONDER HORSE, KEEP THE SECOND TIGER AT BAY--

FIRST HORSE I EVER SAW THAT DIDN'T BOLT AT THE MERE SCENT OF A BIG CAT!

IF THEY COULD TALK, THEY'D PROBABLY SAY, "YOU'RE NOT BAD, YOURSELF."
FELLAS, YOU'RE WONDERFUL.
3-5

COME ON, BOYS. WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO AT THE TOP OF TIGER PEAK!

MY TIGERS HAD HIM TRAPPED-AND HE-KILLED BOTH OF THEM--IMPOSSIBLE!

AS SOON AS HE'S IN RANGE, SWEEP THE ROAD WITH BULLETS! HE WON'T GET LAKANIA ALIVE!
3-6

3-7

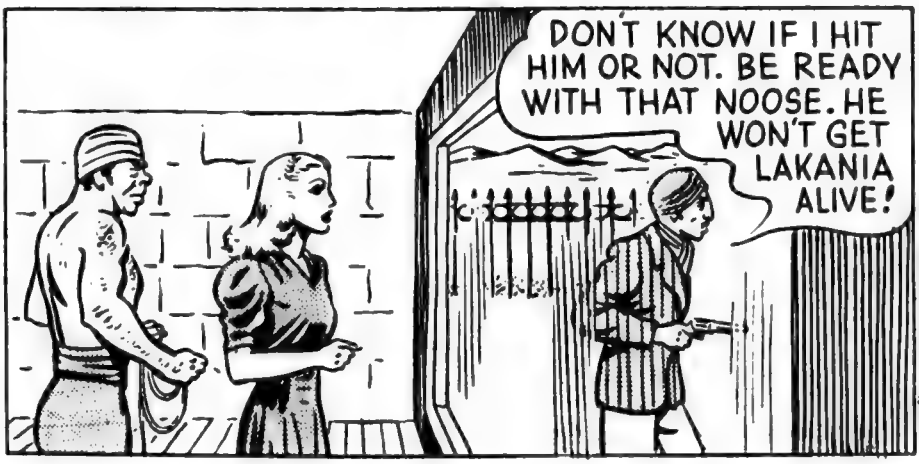
TIGER PEAK WAITS TENSELY, NERVOUSLY--

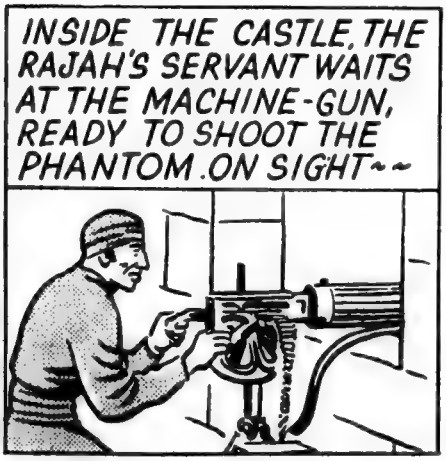
HMM--SEEMS WE'RE EXPECTED.

THERE HE IS!

HMM~ "DEVIL", TAKE "HERO" BEHIND THAT BOULDER. THE RAJAH'S JUST LUCKY ENOUGH TO HIT SOME~ THING.

I'VE GOT TO WORK FAST OR THEY'LL KILL LAKANIA BEFORE I CAN REACH HER.
3-8


DON'T KNOW IF I HIT HIM OR NOT. BE READY WITH THAT NOOSE. HE WON'T GET LAKANIA ALIVE!


INSIDE THE CASTLE, THE RAJAH'S SERVANT WAITS AT THE MACHINE-GUN, READY TO SHOOT THE PHANTOM ON SIGHT~~

HE NEVER GETS THE CHANCE~JUNGLE PEOPLE SAY THE PHANTOM CAN MOVE MORE SILENTLY THAN A CAT ON A RUG~~
3-9

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK. JUST LISTEN. I'VE SEEN THAT THUGEE MOVE IN AND OUT OF THAT HUT.

~AND NEVER USES THE FRONT DOOR. THERE MUST BE A SECRET TUNNEL! LEAD ME TO IT.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.
3-10

HE MOVES "MORE SILENTLY THAN A CAT ON A RUG."

HIS FIST LANDS LIKE A TRIPHAMMER~~
SHH~~

LOOKS LIKE THE PHANTOM RAN AWAY. MY SHOT SCARED HIM.
3-12

I THINK WE CAN FORGET THE PHANTOM. HE'S AFRAID TO COME ANY CLOSER~~~

AND NOW, LAKANIA~~ HUH~~

LAKANIA IS GONE~~THE THUGGEE LIES UNCONSCIOUS, AND ON HIS NECK THE MARK OF THE PHANTOM!
3-13

YOU WORK SO FAST, I CAN HARDLY KEEP UP WITH YOU.

HAVE TO WORK FAST, LAKANIA. THE RAJAH'S A SLIPPERY ONE.

STAY HERE WITH "DEVIL" AND HERO. THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU.

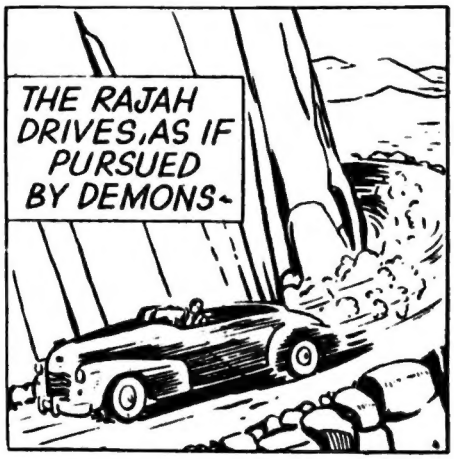
WON'T YOU EVEN WAIT TO LET ME THANK YOU?
GOT TO GET THE RAJAH. YOU CAN THANK ME LATER.
3-14

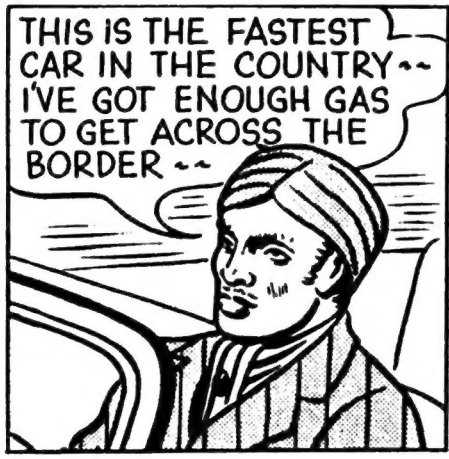
LAKANIA~ GONE! NOTHING TO STOP HER FATHER NOW~ FROM EXECUTING ME ~~~

~UNLESS THE PHANTOM BEATS HIM TO IT!

IF I CAN ONLY GET THIS CAR STARTED, BEFORE THAT PHANTOM REACHES ME~ WHER-EVER HE IS ~~

MADE IT! NOW HE'LL NEVER GET ME ~~
3-15


THE RAJAH DRIVES, AS IF PURSUED BY DEMONS~

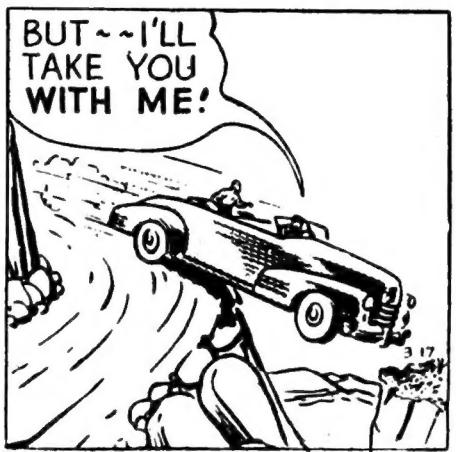

THIS IS THE FASTEST CAR IN THE COUNTRY~~ I'VE GOT ENOUGH GAS TO GET ACROSS THE BORDER ~~

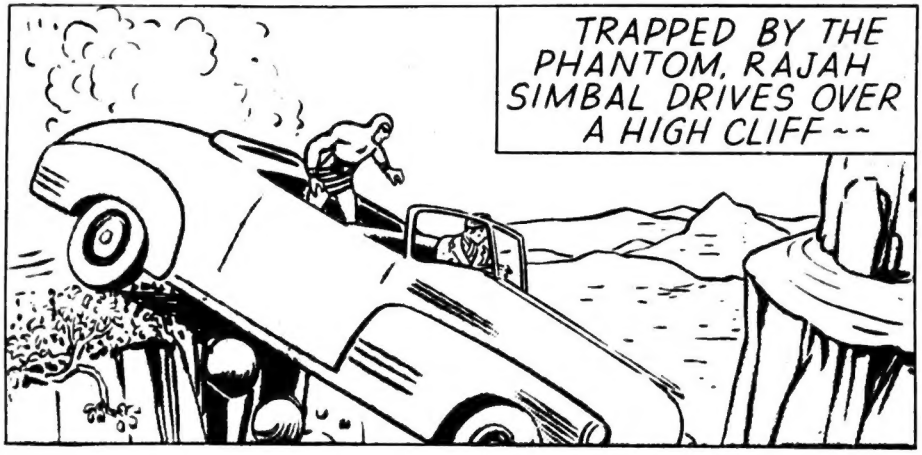
EVEN THE PHANTOM CAN'T STOP ME NOW!
3-16

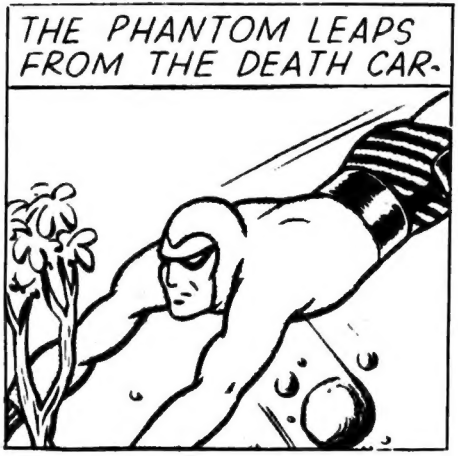
RAJAH SIMBAL, YOU'VE COME TO THE END OF YOUR ROPE.

I'M TAKING YOU BACK TO THE MAHARAJAH. I WON'T DEPRIVE HIM OF THE PLEASURE OF DECIDING YOUR FATE~

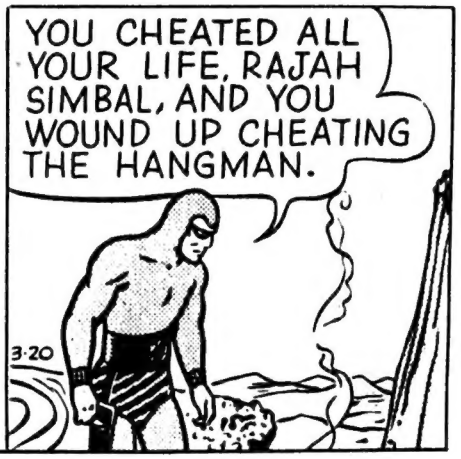
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY~~ I'M FINISHED~~

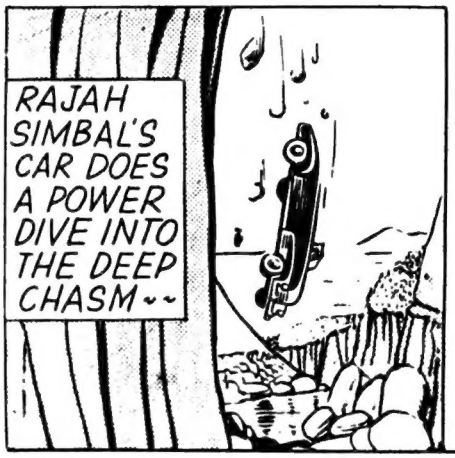

BUT~~I'LL TAKE YOU WITH ME!
3-17

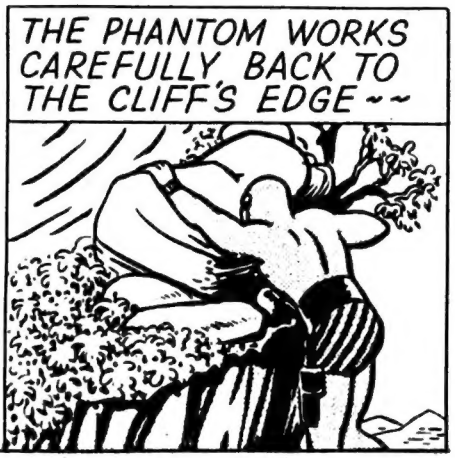

TRAPPED BY THE PHANTOM, RAJAH SIMBAL DRIVES OVER A HIGH CLIFF~~


THE PHANTOM LEAPS FROM THE DEATH CAR-

HOLD, LITTLE BUSH, OR I'M A DEAD DUCK.
3-19

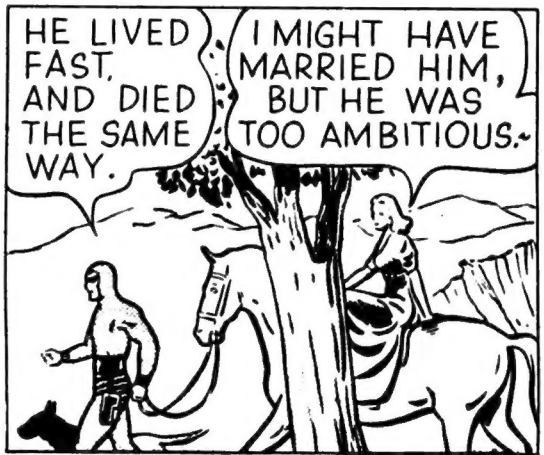

YOU CHEATED ALL YOUR LIFE, RAJAH SIMBAL, AND YOU WOUND UP CHEATING THE HANGMAN.
3-20

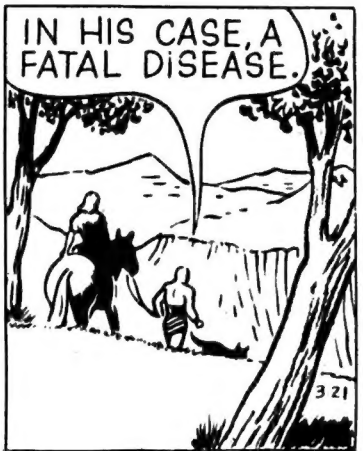

RAJAH SIMBAL'S CAR DOES A POWER DIVE INTO THE DEEP CHASM~~


THE PHANTOM WORKS CAREFULLY BACK TO THE CLIFF'S EDGE~~

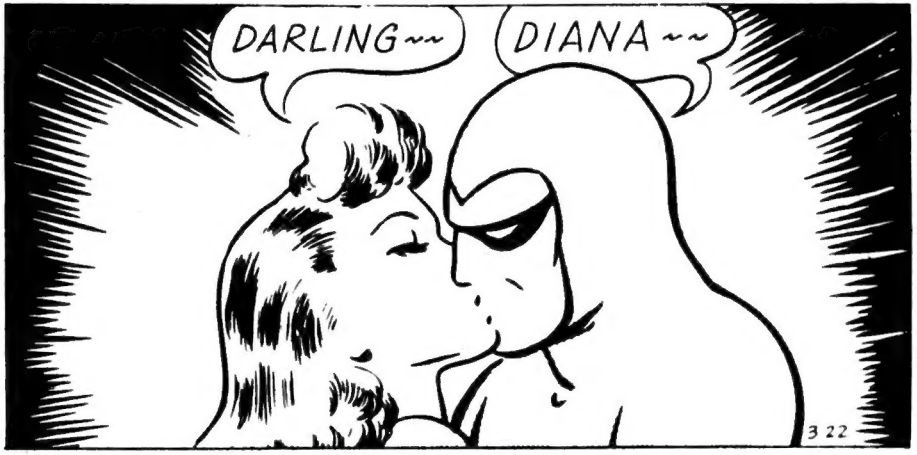
RAJAH SIMBAL WON'T TROUBLE YOU ANY MORE, PRINCESS LAKANIA.
DID YOU~~?

NO, HE FINISHED HIMSELF.
I HATED HIM~BUT I HOPE HE DIDN'T SUFFER-

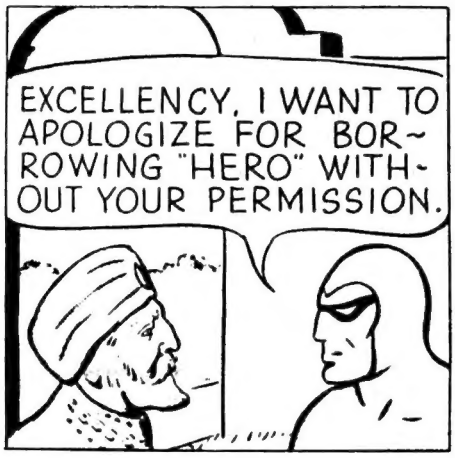

HE LIVED FAST, AND DIED THE SAME WAY.
I MIGHT HAVE MARRIED HIM, BUT HE WAS TOO AMBITIOUS.~


IN HIS CASE, A FATAL DISEASE.
3-21

LAKANIA!
DADDY!

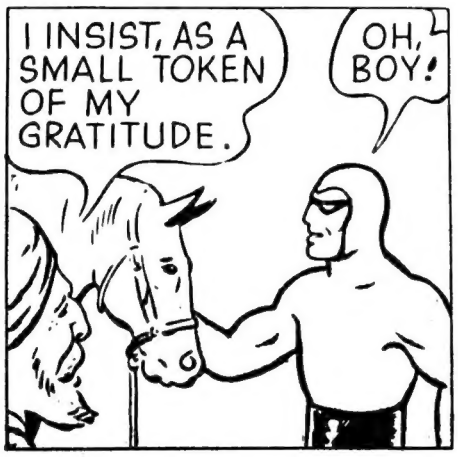

DARLING~~
DIANA~~
3 22

SIR, I CAN NEVER THANK YOU~~
PARDON ME, EXCELLENCY, I HAVE ONE MORE BIT OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS~~


EXCELLENCY, I WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR BOR~ ROWING "HERO" WITH~ OUT YOUR PERMISSION.

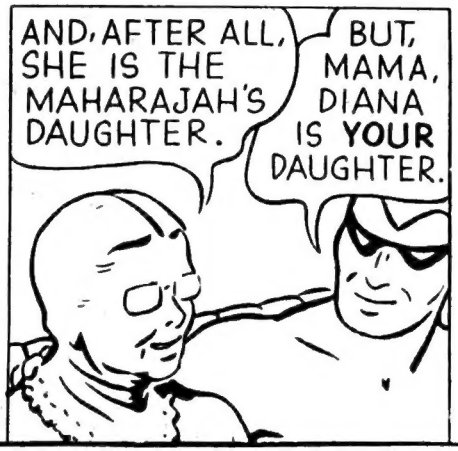
YES, I MEANT TO SPEAK OF THAT. "HERO" IS THE COSTLIEST, SMARTEST AND FASTEST HORSE ON EARTH TODAY~~
3 23

AND HE IS ALL YOURS
"HERO"! NO, EXCELLENCY, I CAN'T ACCEPT~


I INSIST, AS A SMALL TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE.
OH, BOY!

THE PHANTOM AND THE PALMERS SAY FAREWELL TO LAKANIA AND THE MAHARAJAH OF NIMPORE.

I'M ALMOST SORRY TO LEAVE THEM.
JUST AS WELL FOR YOU, DIANA. I THINK LAKANIA HAD HER EYE ON HIM~


AND, AFTER ALL, SHE IS THE MAHARAJAH'S DAUGHTER.
BUT, MAMA, DIANA IS YOUR DAUGHTER.

HE CAN BE SO NICE, WHEN HE WANTS TO
3 24